
FIELD MANUAL

**BASIC TRAINING AND CARE
OF MILITARY DOGS**

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BASIC TRAINING AND CARE OF MILITARY DOGS

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PART ONE
INTRODUCTION
CHAPTER 1
GENERAL

1. Purpose and Scope

a. This manual provides general guidance on the selection, care, and basic training of all military working dogs used by the US Army regardless of specialized function. It also discusses those administrative and logistical support functions necessary in order to sustain canine operations. Specific information concerning employment techniques and specialized training procedures is contained in other publications that deal with specialized canine functions.

b. The material contained herein is applicable without modification to both nuclear and non-nuclear warfare.

c. Users of this publication are encouraged to submit recommended changes or comments to improve the publication. Comments should be keyed to the specific page, paragraph, and line of the text in which the change is recommended. Reasons should be provided for each comment to insure understanding and complete evaluation. Comments should be prepared using DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications) and forwarded direct to the Commandant, United States Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905.

2. Military Dog Missions

a. Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (DCS-PER). Assumes overall responsibility for monitoring and coordination of matters relating to The Military Dog Program.

b. United States Army Infantry School. Trains instructors, leaders, handlers, and dogs for infantry utilization, as appropriate, in the US Army and US Marine Corps; conducts applied research and development in infantry uses and training of military dogs as directed.

c. United States Army Military Police School. Trains instructors, leaders, and handlers in canine skills associated with military police utilization of dogs, and makes special studies, as required, on military police utilization of canines.

d. United States Air Force. Trains instructors, handlers, and dogs in the sentry dog program for all services, and makes special studies as required.

e. Command Responsibility. Commanders are responsible for the proper employment, handling, care, and continued training of military dogs assigned to their units.

CHAPTER 2

HISTORY OF WAR DOGS

3. Before World War II

The use of dogs in auxiliary combat elements is as old as war itself. Primitive man used dogs to guard his family, his belongings, and himself. He took his dog into battle with him when rival tribes clashed. Throughout the history of warfare, from the days of the Persians and the conquests of the Roman Empire, to the fighting in Vietnam, dogs have gone into combat at the side of their masters or have been used in direct support of combat operations. Initially, entire formations of attack dogs, frequently equipped with armor and spiked collars, were sent into battle against the enemy as recognized and effective instruments of warfare. However, with the invention of gunpowder and the consequent change in military tactics, the value of dogs as *combatants* has progressively diminished. During World War I, vast numbers of dogs were employed as sentries, messengers, ammunition carriers, scouts, sled dogs, and casualty dogs. It is estimated that Germany alone employed over 30,000 dogs for such purposes, and approximately 20,000 dogs served with the French Army. The American Expeditionary Forces had no organized dog units, but borrowed a limited number of dogs from France and Belgium for casualty, messenger, and guard duty.

4. World War II and the Korean Conflict

During World War II dogs were used on the largest scale to date. In all, over 250,000 dogs served with the armies of the Allies and the Axis Powers. The United States entered the war without dogs, but "Dogs for Defense" was quickly founded and a training program was initiated. Many dog clubs, breeders, trainers, and others banded together to support this organization. Dogs were procured for the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Marines and civilian guards at the rate of 1,000 dogs per month. These dogs served everywhere the US soldier fought. In May 1942, the US Army established the K-9 Corps. This organization operated five war dog

reception and training centers. Throughout the war over 10,000 dogs were trained for the following duties: messenger, 151; scout, 595; mine detector, 140; sled and pack, 368, and sentry, 9,298. Some of the dogs established distinguished records and were officially cited for outstanding and faithful service. The 26th Infantry Scout Dog Platoon, the Army's oldest active canine unit, saw considerable action in World War II on Luzon in the Philippines and was awarded a presidential unit citation for action there. The 26th Infantry Scout Dog Platoon continued its mission in Korea, being the only such unit to see action in that conflict. Its men and dogs participated in more than 1,000 patrols, being credited with reducing the casualty rate by 65 percent on such missions. A member of that unit was a dog named York. This dog led 148 combat patrols in Korea and never lost a man due to enemy fire. A letter of achievement was written about the dog and signed by the commanding general of the 25th Infantry Division at that time. The unit was awarded its second Presidential Unit Citation for combat duty there.

5. Vietnam Conflict

a. The Vietnam Conflict produced major developments in the employment and effectiveness of military dogs. As many as 1,700 dogs of all types were actively engaged in support of all services. In addition to the proven sentry and scout dogs, the requirements of the war produced the mine/tunnel detection dog, the combat tracker and marijuana detector dogs. Development of off-leash techniques gave increased range and warning ability.

b. The 26th Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog) was the Army's only organized unit at the beginning of the conflict. The program began expanding in late 1965 and three major training centers were in operation by late 1967. By February 1969 these centers had activated, trained, and deployed 21 Army and Marine scout dog platoons, 10 combat tracker units, and 3 military

police sentry dog companies. These units employed some 700 sentry, 650 scout, 100 mine tunnel detection, and 50 combat tracker dogs.

c. Throughout the Vietnam Conflict, the Military Police Corps used dogs with considerable success. Most of these were sentry dogs used to safeguard critical installations such as ports and airfields. A new dimension in canine utilization was realized when marijuana detector dog teams were trained and deployed to assist military police in suppressing illicit drug traffic. Sentry and marijuana detector dog teams are deployed world-wide in support of military police.

d. The infantry was well provided with tactical dogs. The scout dogs provided silent, early warning of the enemy and supported every type of combat operation. After contact with the

enemy was broken, the combat trackers and visual trackers were called in to follow him. Deployment of the mine/tunnel detection dog in 1969 was a major breakthrough in countermine warfare. These dogs, employed with the infantry, or with the combat engineers on road sweeps, gave the soldier his best defense against the enemy's profusion of casualty-producing devices, and surpassed the most sophisticated electronic detectors in some instances.

e. An important outgrowth of the conflict was the development of canine research and development efforts. These ongoing efforts were able to initiate the first steps toward developing a more intelligent and stronger military dog; training dogs to detect specific drugs and explosives; developing multiple-purpose dogs; and employment of tactical dogs by electronic remote control.

CHAPTER 3

HANDLER PERSONNEL

6. Introduction

In addition to meeting the special qualifications of the regular infantry soldier, or military policeman, military dog handlers and supervisors specialize in the activities of the military dog program. This chapter explains the source, qualifications, duties, and responsibilities of military dog handler personnel.

7. Source

Military dog trainers, handlers, and supervisors must demonstrate a high degree of competence in all facets of dog care, training, and employment. Normally, personnel selected for training as dog handlers are assigned from either infantry or military police career fields in MOS 11B or 95B. Instructor personnel are qualified military dog trainers in MOS 00C4 and usually enter the Army dog program subsequent to practical training and experience in handling either infantry or military police working dogs. Insofar as possible all personnel participating in the Army dog program are volunteers.

8. Qualifications

There are no purely objective methods of determining how well a prospective handler qualifies in the desirable traits of a dog handler. However, prospective handlers cannot be selected haphazardly. Interviews provide a satisfactory basis for selection if carefully conducted. Each candidate should be examined before he is permitted to undergo any training with military dogs. To insure the effectiveness of this procedure, each candidate should undergo a second interview after 3 weeks of training. At this time the candidate should be able to give a reasonably clear and intelligent account of the instruction he has received and his *attitude* toward military dog training should be carefully checked.

9. Essential Traits

To successfully care for and train dogs, handlers must possess certain characteristic traits such as

proper attitude, patience and perseverance, mental and physical coordination, resourcefulness, dependability, and physical endurance.

a. Friendly Attitude Toward Dogs. Any individual selected to train and handle dogs must have a genuine fondness for and interest in dogs. If this quality cannot be readily determined in prospective handlers, they should be considered unacceptable.

b. Patience and Perseverance. Handler personnel cannot force desired behavior upon dogs nor can they expect the dogs to learn as rapidly as human beings. Efficient handler personnel are undisturbed by a dog's apparent inability to correctly accomplish a feat; they do not lose control of their tempers easily. Instead, they accept the fact that dogs must be taught slowly and that most exercises must be repeated often before the dogs learn to execute certain tasks properly.

c. Mental and Physical Coordination. Handler personnel must be able to convey their wishes to their dogs by gestures as well as by voice. This requires a large amount of mental and physical coordination. Vocal commands must be clear and concise; when necessary, hand signals or gestures must be given simultaneously with vocal commands.

d. Resourcefulness. Although most training procedures are carefully set forth for handler personnel, situations will arise which call for actions not covered by any set rules. To be successful, handler personnel must recognize these situations and be able to improvise means with which they can control them. Rules for training dogs are designed to apply to most dogs; however, no two dogs are exactly alike with regard to their characteristics and their ability to learn. Because of this, established rules for training and handling may be adapted to fit the needs of the individual animal. Good dog handlers and supervisors, through their resourcefulness, determine what is needed and devise methods to achieve the desired outcome.

e. Dependability. The welfare of the dog is entirely in the hands of the handler. Dogs cannot disclose how they are being treated. Their physical well-being depends, primarily, on the willingness of the handler to do such manual labor as necessary regarding kennel management, feeding, and dog cleanliness. Failure in these responsibilities means failure of the training program.

f. Physical Endurance. Not only must the handler be able to show good coordination, he must be able to maintain his efforts as long as necessary. The handler must be able to "out last" his dog during each training period. This includes being able to swim, since overseas operations include water-borne patrols.

CHAPTER 4

PROCUREMENT, SAFETY, AND TRANSPORTATION OF MILITARY DOGS

Section I. PROCUREMENT

10. General

This section describes the method used for procuring dogs in the United States. Under normal conditions only two breeds of dog are procured, the German Shepherd and the Labrador Retriever.

11. The German Shepherd

This breed has been selected over others for use in the military dog program because German Shepherds are available in the numbers required and have the best combination of characteristics for most military work.

a. Characteristics. One of the most important characteristics of the German Shepherd is its ability to adapt to different climatic conditions. The breed has a double coat of hair; the outer coat is long, coarse, and somewhat water resistant; the undercoat is soft and furry, and grows thick when the weather or climate is cold. The German Shepherd has a long, tireless gait; it is strong, alert, fearless, and agile. The German Shepherd is not a vicious animal; however, it has a natural distrust of strange persons or strange situations.

b. Specifications. Breeds other than the German Shepherd have been tested and found acceptable for use as military dogs when required. The German Shepherd, however, has been selected as the breed *best* suited for most military duty; the specifications discussed here are for that breed only. Not all German Shepherds are physically or temperamentally fit to become military dogs. For this reason the United States Air Force (which procures *all* military dogs) has rigid specifications which each dog must meet before being accepted for training.

(1) *Conformation.* To be acceptable for procurement, a dog must be representative of the German Shepherd breed of any color except all white.

(a) The dog must be a sturdy, compact, working type.

(b) It must reveal evidence of power, endurance, and energy.

(c) The dog may be of either sex, but female animals require a veterinary certificate indicating that a complete ovario-hysterectomy (spay) operation has been performed at least 60 days before the preshipment veterinary physical examination.

(d) The animal must be at least 23 inches in height; this is measured by a perpendicular line from the top of its shoulder blade to the ground. The coat should be parted or pushed down so that the measurement shows only the actual height of the dog's frame or structure.

(e) The dog must weight at least 60 pounds.

(f) It must be between 12 and 36 months of age when offered for sale or donation.

(g) It should have good muscle tone, clear eyes, and an alert attitude.

(h) Its coat should be lustrous and in a good state of grooming. The outer coat should be dense. The undercoat varies in density with the season of the year and with the geographical region from which the animal comes.

(i) A dog with minor breed defects (coarse or domed head, hanging ears, tail defect, and the like) is not necessarily disqualified.

(j) A male which has been castrated or which has one or both testicles undescended is acceptable.

(k) The dog must have strong teeth; but not more than four may be missing. None of the missing teeth may be a canine tooth. A dog with serious erosion of the enamel of its teeth or with badly worn teeth is not acceptable.

(l) A dog with an overshot or undershot jaw is not acceptable.

(2) *Structure and locomotion.* Physically, a

dog selected for use in the military dog program must meet generally acceptable standards for the German Shepherd breed, although minor defects which do not interfere with its ability to perform military duty may be allowed.

(a) The body and legs of an acceptable animal must be well proportioned.

(b) The animal must have good bone structure and a deep chest with well-sprung ribs.

(c) The pasterns must be strong and springy.

(d) The feet must be well positioned; the toes must be short and well arched, with thick, tough pads.

(e) The gait of an acceptable animal must be generally within breed standards although minor defects are not important. Any gait defect which interferes with the animal's ability to perform strenuous duty is disqualifying.

(3) *Temperament.* An acceptable dog must show evidence of typical German Shepherd character and temperament as defined by the breed standard. Alertness, aggressiveness, steadiness, vigor, and responsiveness are necessary qualities.

(a) A timid, shrinking, or cowardly animal is not acceptable.

(b) An acceptable animal must be moderately aggressive.

(c) A gun-shy animal is not acceptable. A gun-shy dog cowers when it hears a gunshot or similar noise. There are a number of possible reasons for this; one is that a gun may have been fired very close to its head and may have actually damaged the eardrum. Consequently, the dog naturally dislikes the sound of a gunshot and cowers when it hears one.

(d) A "gun-green" animal may be acceptable. The gun-green animal probably has never been exposed to gunfire and does not know what it is. Therefore, it may act curious or it may appear to be rather suspicious. The dog does not appear brave around gunfire, but it is not actually afraid of the sound.

(4) *State of health.* In conjunction with the temperament and physical soundness of the dog, its overall state of health must be considered; an animal must be in a good state of health as determined by a military veterinary officer at the procurement facility. A dog in poor physical condition or afflicted with a disqualifying disease is not acceptable for use as a military dog. The following diseases, conditions or defects are disqualifying:

(a) Evidence of a contagious disease or

condition that renders the animal unsuitable for immediate training.

(b) Heartworms; as determined by the Knott's test.

(c) Defective sense of hearing, vision, or smell.

(d) Bone or joint disease including hip dysplasia, which in the judgment of veterinary officers at procurement installations impairs the ability of the animal to perform maximally.

12. The Labrador Retriever

This breed was selected for use in the Army Dog Program (tracking phase) because of its demonstrated ability to perform the tasks required and the fact that Labrador Retrievers are available for procurement in sufficient numbers to meet Army needs.

a. *Characteristics.* Although other breeds can be used for tracking, the Labrador Retriever was selected because of its well developed olfactory ability, endurance, training willingness, and ability to adapt to varied climatic conditions. Not vicious animals, they work well around people and develop rapport with their handlers quite easily. A strongly built, short coupled, very active dog, the Labrador Retriever can traverse all types of terrain with little difficulty.

b. *Specifications.* Male or spayed females between the ages of 1 and 5 years that weigh at least 45 pounds, and are a minimum of 20 inches in height are acceptable for training if they meet other prerequisites. Colors will range from black to yellow, with black or chocolate colored animals preferred. Since all Labrador Retrievers are not physically or temperamentally suited for military purposes the US Air Force has established rigid specifications which each dog must meet prior to being accepted for training.

(1) *Conformation.* Muscular body, strong back, straight forelimbs, steep sloping pasterns, and strong muscular hindquarters. Toes not splayed or bunched, with well cushioned pads on the feet. Level and well-aligned teeth that are not excessively undershot or overshot. No more than four teeth may be missing, none of which may be a canine tooth. Forefeet do not turn inward or outward and the hocks are well bent, straight from front to back and perpendicular.

(2) *Temperament.* Alert; not overly sensitive to overt stimuli with resultant trembling, cowering, or fleeing but still sensitive to sound and touch; should evidence willingness for guidance and have an ability to retain instruction; should be sufficiently aggressive to perform as re-

quired. Must not be gun shy, although gun-green animals are acceptable.

(3) *State of Health.* Health requirements are generally the same as those for the German Shepherd.

13. Procurement Procedures

a. AR 700-81 directs the US Air Force to procure all military working dogs to be used by US Military Forces.

Note: A dog owner who is interested in donating or selling a dog to the United States Government for use as a military working dog should direct all inquiries to: Department of Defense Dog Center, Lackland AFB, Texas 78236. The center will forward complete instructions to the owner.

b. A licensed veterinarian must perform a pre-shipment physical examination on any dog offered to the Government.

c. When completed forms and questionnaires are received from an owner, the Dog Acceptance Board determines whether the dog is acceptable for military examination. If the dog is acceptable the owner is notified.

d. The owner is instructed to ship the dog at

Government expense in the crate provided by the Procurement Center. The Government reserves the right to reject an unsuitable dog within a reasonable period of time. A rejected dog, if requested by his owner, is returned at Government expense. The owner is asked to return the empty crate at Government expense.

e. The shipping crate protects and secures a dog while it is in transit. Figure 1 shows a crate that has a trough in the door for water and food. The trough swings outside to permit refilling during shipment. When shipped by aircraft, dogs are not fed while the aircraft is in flight.

14. Evaluation for Acceptance

On arrival the dog is removed from its shipping crate and is immediately equipped with a leather collar; it is watered, checked to determine if any ill effects have resulted from the trip, and assigned to a kennel. During the next 2 or 3 weeks, the animal is given a complete veterinary medical examination and a series of tests which determine its suitability as a military dog. Necessary quarantine procedures are taken to insure isolation of the animal.

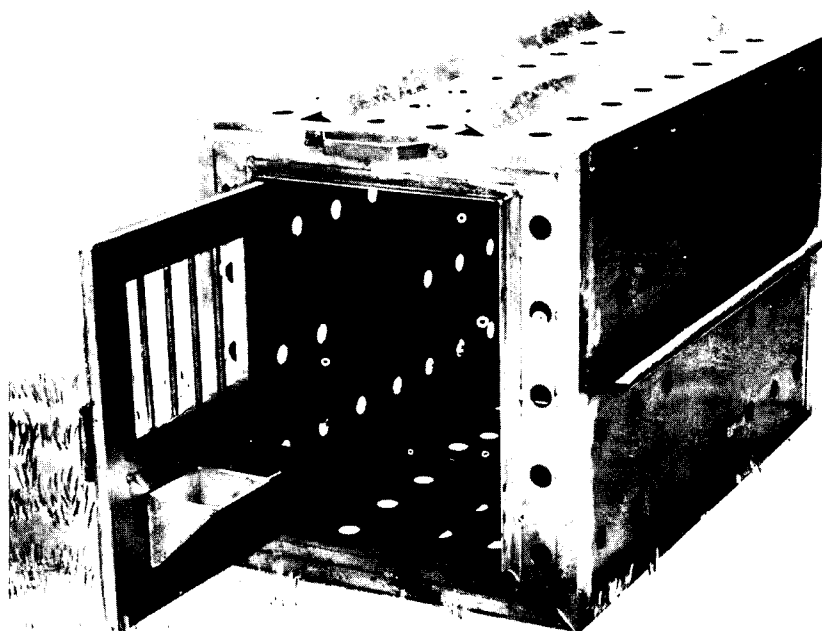


Figure 1. Individual (kennel type) shipping crate.

a. *Veterinary Medical Examination.* A veterinary member of the Dog Acceptance Board insures that each dog receives a veterinary medical examination to determine if it meets the required specifications. This examination includes a blood test for evidence of heartworm infection, a pelvic X-ray (radiograph) to determine whether or not the dog has hip dysplasia, which is disqualifying, and foreleg X-rays (radiographs) to determine whether or not the dog has elbow dysplasia which is disqualifying. A dog that does not pass the examination is declared unfit and returned to its owner or otherwise disposed of in accordance with regulations.

b. *Test for Gun Shyness.* A dog is accustomed to gunfire when a small caliber weapon is fired near it and the dog shows little or no reaction to the noise. Some dogs cannot be trained to remain calm under gunfire; such a dog is declared unsuitable for service in the military dog program.

(1) A dog may be accustomed to gunfire by discharging a small caliber weapon or by exploding firecrackers from a distance. It is best to begin this familiarization when the dog is engaged in some activity which absorbs its attention. This helps it to become subconsciously accustomed to this type of noise. The most successful procedure is to have the shooting done as casually and intermittently as possible.

(2) Weapons should *never* be fired too close to a dog. The minimum distance to begin firing is 50 yards; it is best to fire the first round from a distance of 75 to 100 yards. As familiarization continues, the weapon may be fired closer, but no closer than 15 yards. When a dog shows alarm, do not attempt to force it to sit quietly while firing is repeated. Discontinue firing for the time being and resume when the dog is no longer in a

state of alarm. A gun-shy dog does not become accustomed to gunfire and is rejected.

(3) The test for gun shyness is for evaluation purposes only and is not to be confused with gunfire training which is covered in another chapter.

c. *Test for Suitable Temperament.* This test determines whether a dog responds appropriately to mild agitation. To perform this test, someone approaches the dog and strikes at it with a rolled burlap bag or some other harmless device. The dog should respond by growling, barking, or attempting to bite the agitator. Some dogs, when initially exposed to mild agitation, will be startled for a few seconds and may appear frightened. This response should not cause a dog to be disqualified. If, however, the dog repeatedly acts frightened by the agitator it is unsuitable for training.

15. Tattooing Procedures

The assignment of brand/tattoo numbers is the responsibility of the Department of Defense Dog Center. An animal accepted for the dog program is tattooed with Preston brand numbers on the inside of its left ear. In cases of heavy ear pigmentation, the tattoo may be applied on the inner side, of the left flank. With the Preston branding system, it is possible to tattoo up to 4,000 animals with each letter assigned. If the letter "a" is used, the first animal tattooed receives the tattoo "A000," the second "A001," the third, "A002," and so on through "A999." This accounts for the first one thousand. The second thousand dogs are tattooed "0A00," "0A01," "0A02," through "9A99." The third thousand are tattooed "00A0," "00A1," "00A2," through "99A9," and the fourth thousand "000A," "001A," "002A," through "999A."

Section II. SAFETY

16. General

Military dog handler personnel must learn good safety habits and must practice them at all times. Some people believe that military dogs, whether on leash or loose, are walking safety hazards. Safety conscious personnel can prevent military dogs from committing unsafe acts and thereby dispel such misconceptions. Safety practices *must* begin the minute a person enters a kennel area.

17. In and Around the Kennel Area

a. Personnel must refrain from running or

engaging in any type of "horseplay" in or near the kennel area. Such actions tend to stimulate kennelled dogs and could create a situation where in a dog might break out of its kennel or run and cause injury to itself, a person, or another dog.

b. A handler must use caution to maintain control of his dog when moving it from one place to another within the kennel area. This can be done by grasping the dog's leash so that the dog remains very close. A handler can shorten the leash sufficiently by securing the loop of the leash to his right wrist and placing his left hand on the leash with the knuckles facing upward,

as illustrated in figure 2. Notice that the handler places his left hand near the snap; the hand is *never* placed directly on the snap.

c. There are a number of other specific safety precautions to observe while in and around the kennel area. Some of these are:

(1) When the dogs are inside their runs, secure all gates and doors to the runs.

(2) When dogs are kenneled in birdcage-type kennels or temporary kennel boxes, fit their leather collars so that they are not able to back out of them.

(3) Use caution to avoid sudden movements in and around the area.

(4) Use extreme care while cleaning, feeding, and watering strange dogs.

(5) In the event that a loose dog appears in

any area, the first person to notice the animal must give the alarm, "loose dog," and everyone in the area, except the dog's handler, must *immediately apply a hasty muzzle on his own dog, kneel*, and hold the dog close to his chest with the dog's head beneath his arm. The handler then retrieves the dog by coaxing it to come close enough to be caught and properly secured.

(6) Handlers must allow a safe distance between their dogs and any other dogs or persons in the area. This is done to make sure that dog teams do not come into contact with one another. Kennel areas are planned for a one-way traffic system so that no two dogs are brought face-to-face. This system must be observed at all times.

(7) Handlers with dogs on leash must give an oral warning upon entering or leaving the kennel area and at any time there is an obstructed



Figure 2. Short leash.

view. They must call out, "dog coming through," "in," "around," or "by," whichever is appropriate.

(8) Handler and kennel personnel must recognize signs which indicate that a dog is preparing to bite. Such signs include growling, curling lips or baring teeth, staring and standing perfectly still, and rising of hackles on neck.

(9) Personnel should never turn their backs on a dog; never kick, slap, or hit a dog; never speak or move in a threatening manner around strange dogs.

18. In and Around the Training Area

Although kennel areas are surrounded by fences so that it is almost impossible for a dog to escape from such an area, this protection is not usually provided around training areas. Because of this, personnel must be more safety conscious while in and around the training area. The following are some of the most important safety precautions to be observed in and around this area:

a. While moving to and from designated training areas, and during break and grooming periods, handlers must always keep their leashes looped over their wrists. This precaution helps to prevent the leash from slipping out of a handler's grasp.

b. A safe distance must be maintained between other teams and other people. As a rule, there should be at least 15 feet between dogs or between a dog and another person. When it becomes necessary to approach other dog teams, dogs must be held on short leashes. A greater distance is allowed during break periods because this is the time set aside for dogs to romp and play at the end of the leash.

c. When accompanied by his dog the handler should not sit or lie down because he would be in an extremely awkward position to control the dog if it should suddenly lunge.

d. To pass articles to another person, the handler places the articles on the ground and takes his dog from the immediate area so that the other person can safely retrieve the articles.

e. The handler must not tie his dog to any object with the leash because the dog is capable of chewing through the leash, breaking it, gaining freedom, and perhaps causing injury to others or itself.

f. A dog must *never* be staked out unobserved or left unobserved with a muzzle on.

g. The handler must never tie his dog to a vehicle. The dog might receive a serious injury if the vehicle is moved.

h. Many dogs have a natural desire to fight other dogs when they are brought together. It is important to follow safe procedures when breaking up a dogfight. To begin with, breaking up a dogfight is a two-man project; no one should attempt to accomplish it alone. Fighting dogs should *never* be pulled apart; pulling them apart may cause a ripping and tearing of the flesh and may disable the dogs. In breaking up a dogfight each handler should—

(1) Keep his leash taut as he gradually works his hand toward the snap of the leash.

(2) Hold the snap end of the leash firmly with his right hand and slip his left hand underneath the dog's collar.

(3) Grasp the collar tightly with his left hand.

(4) Grab the throat of his dog with the right hand at a point just below the dog's lower jaw.

(5) Choke his dog until the air supply is cut off, thus forcing the dog to release its hold.

i. If a handler is bitten by a dog, he uses the same procedure to effect a release as used to separate two fighting dogs. Never attempt to jerk away from the dog because this action may cause a serious wound.

j. An alert handler can avoid being bitten by his own dog. If the dog attempts to bite: grab the leash close to the dog's neck; hold the animal's front feet off the ground; extend arms to push the dog away; and, at the same time, slowly turn in a circle to keep the dog off balance. This procedure serves two purposes: it keeps the dog from seriously harming its handler, and it is a means for the handler to rebuke this dog for attempting to attack.

k. Until a dog has received all of its initial training, most of its time is spent in either the kennel area or the training area; therefore, it is important that the handler be especially aware of his safety responsibilities while in these areas.

19. In and Around Veterinary Treatment Facilities

a. The opportunity for violation of good safety practices exists when the handler presents his dog to a veterinary officer for examination or treatment. The handler must keep in mind that his dog is in strange surroundings, among strange people, for treatment that is unusual and, sometimes, painful. This is an abnormal situation for the dog, and its behavior may not be what the handler expects. Therefore, the handler must al-

ways be alert and prepared to control his animal while medical care is being provided.

b. Because of the flow of dog traffic during clinical hours, the distance between dogs presents a safety problem. A dog must always be kept at a proper and safe distance from other dogs or people. Before entering or leaving a doorway or passageway, the handler must make a habit of giving a loud, clear, vocal warning, "dog coming through!" This helps to prevent the dog from walking into someone. The handler must observe his dog's actions at all times and keep it on a short leash while in this area.

c. Before reporting to the veterinary clinic, the handler should muzzle his dog; he should follow the veterinarian's instructions relative to using the muzzle. Strict attention must be given to all instructions received while the dog is being examined and treated. Generally, it helps calm the dog if the handler soothes it with kind words and actions.

d. The handler must not neglect to use all of the safety practices he has learned throughout his training as a dog handler. He should follow and observe all local policies pertaining to safety instructions.

Section III. TRANSPORTATION OF DOGS

20. General

A dog may be transported from one location to another by various means. In most cases, the handler cares for, feeds, waters, and exercises his dog during transit. Certain techniques and methods will insure the health and safety of the handler and his dog.

21. Loading

The safest method of loading a dog is to use a ramp. Most vehicles can be equipped with a cleated ramp which does not require modification to the vehicle. If it is impossible to ramp-equip a vehicle, a loading ramp at the kennel facility and one or more at the dismount area will suffice. If a loading ramp is not available, the handler lifts the dog on and off the vehicle in one of the two ways shown in figure 3. Except for an injured dog, which may require different handling, the best procedure is for the handler to place his left arm in front of his dog's forelegs and his right arm behind and under the dog's rear legs, holding the dog close to his body, and lifting the animal straight up. In the alternate method illustrated, the handler follows the same technique except that he places his right arm under the dog's abdomen rather than under his rear legs.

22. During Local Motor Vehicle Transportation

a. Due to the confinement of dogs in an inclosed area and close proximity of teams it is necessary to muzzle the dogs before loading when transporting them short distances by vehicle. Muzzles should fit snugly but should permit free breathing by the dog.

b. Once loading is accomplished the dog is given the commands *DOWN* and *STAY*. The handler

then boards the vehicle and assumes a sitting position. The dog is placed in a sitting position between the handler's legs and facing the handler (fig 4). While loading and traveling the handler utilizes a *short* leash for better control of his dog. After the dogs are settled they are allowed to lie down during movement. Using this method, the maximum, safe number of teams that can be transported on a 2 1/2-ton truck is 14; on a 3/4-ton truck it is 6.

c. When off-loading a vehicle the teams at the rear of the vehicle dismount first. The dog is given the commands *DOWN* and *STAY* at the rear of the vehicle; the handler dismounts, lowers his dog to the ground, and moves from the dismount area before unmuzzling his dog.

23. During Long Distance Transportation

Long distance transportation may differ somewhat from local transportation, depending upon the type of carrier used. When transported by truck over a long distance, the dog is placed inside a shipping crate. The dog wears the leather collar while it is in the shipping crate. The collar is used as a means of control and identification if the dog gets loose. If feasible, dogs are transported in the standard dog aluminum shipping crate (TA 878, FSN 8115-803-3172). A health certificate issued by a veterinarian always accompanies the dog when it is shipped to another state or another country.

a. *Truck*. When transporting a dog by truck, dog personnel are responsible for a number of important items.

(1) Plainly mark the shipping crate with the dog's name and brand number. The shipping crate can be plainly marked using a 6-inch long strip of masking tape on which to write this information.



Figure 3. Lifting dog.

(2) When shipping dogs, the shipping crate must be marked in bold letters "DANGER—DOG."

(3) Arrange the crate on the truck to insure proper ventilation; place the crate in an area free from exhaust fumes.

(4) Allow sufficient room to remove the dog from its crate for exercise, food, or water, or in case of an emergency.

(5) Handle the crate carefully to prevent accidents. Dropping the crate might result in an injury to personnel as well as to the dog.

(6) If the vehicle is in an accident, remove the dog from its crate, check it for possible injury, and exercise it until the vehicle is ready to proceed.

b. Train. When the dog is shipped by train, it is placed in a clearly marked shipping crate.

(1) When handlers do not accompany their dogs, detailed instructions for feeding and watering must be attached to the crates; these instructions are obtained from the post veterinarian.

(2) Contact shipping officials to determine the time the dog is to be loaded; it is important that the dog arrive at the shipping office as near loading time as possible.

(3) Do not leave the dog on the platform in its crate for a long period of time; if there is a delay, remove the dog from the crate and exercise it, then water the dog before putting it back in the crate.

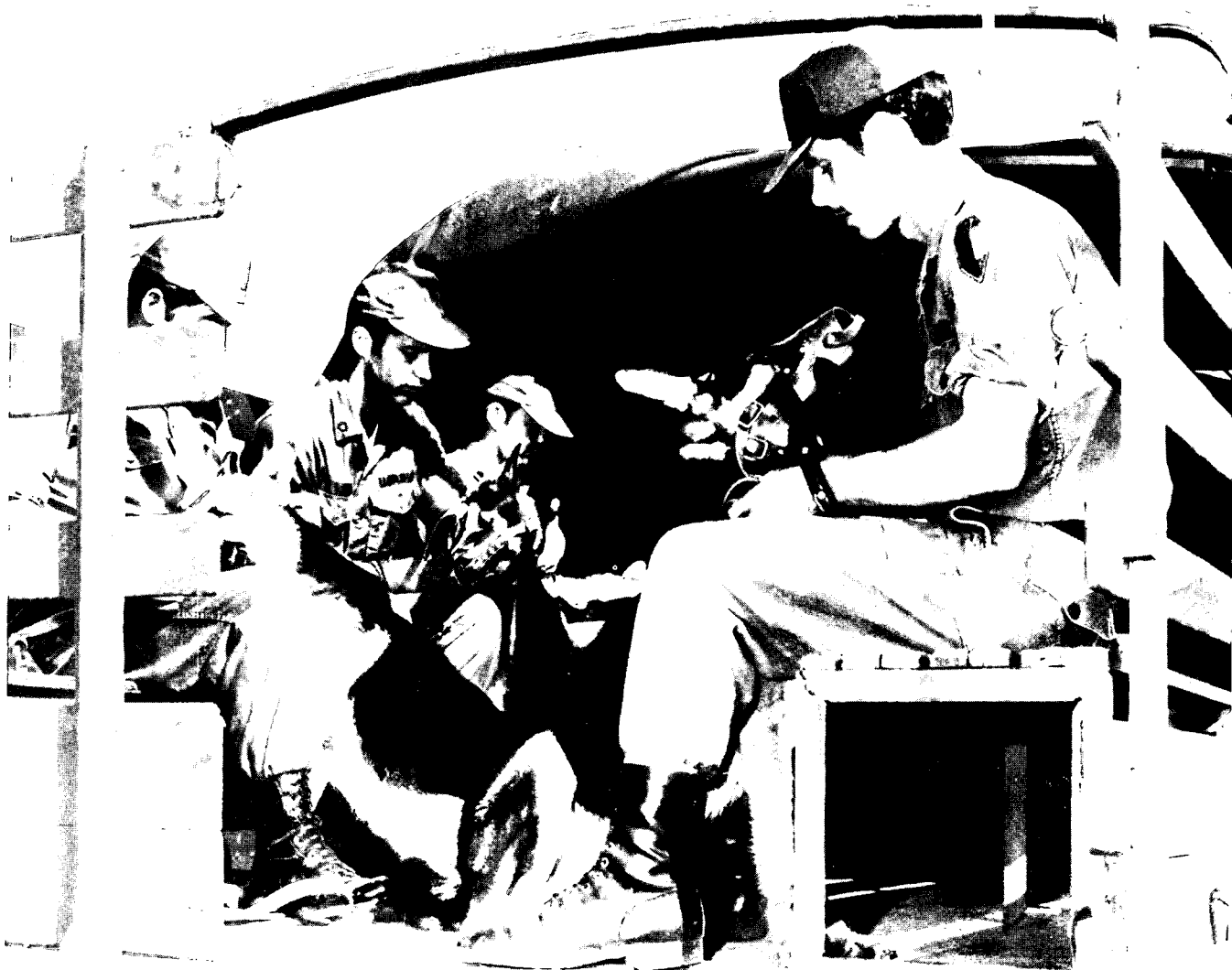


Figure 4. Correct position of dogs when traveling in truck.

(4) Always place the crate in a cool place on the platform.

(5) Remain with the dog until it is loaded on the train to prevent anyone from molesting it and from possibly being bitten by the dog.

(6) When the dog is loaded in a train car, make sure there is proper ventilation, that enough space is allowed for feeding or watering, and that the crate is placed in such a position that the dog can be removed if necessary.

(7) NEVER place the crate on top of other merchandise, as it may fall and cause injury to the animal.

(8) Upon arrival at the destination, the dog is unloaded as soon as possible and transported to the kennel area. If there is any delay in transporting the dog to the kennel area, it

should be removed from the crate, exercised, and watered.

(9) When accompanying the dog on a train, the handler checks with the conductor to set a time for feeding and watering. At feeding time, if possible, the handler takes his dog out of the crate for a short period. During this time the handler must observe all safety rules and not allow the dog to escape.

(10) The handler must be safety conscious at all times. He must never tie his dog outside the shipping crate, never remove the dog from its crate in a congested area, and always muzzle the dog when it is being exercised in or around the train.

c. Rotary-Wing Aircraft. Other than the actual on-loading and off-loading, the procedures

used in local motor vehicle transportation apply to helicopter movement. Due to the close proximity of personnel, control of the dogs is necessary at all times.

(1) *Huey UH1D*. Load at the sides, approaching from the front. The tail rotor is a danger area and should be avoided at all times. As a precaution dogs should be loaded last. At first most dogs will have to be helped aboard but after a few lifts the majority are able to jump aboard. Unloading will be done as quickly as possible.

(2) *Chinook CH-47*. Always enter and exit by the rear ramp.

d. Fixed-Wing Aircraft. In most instances, the procedures used in train transportation apply to aircraft transportation. Normally, a dog is not fed and watered while the aircraft is in flight. However, during prolonged trips by air dogs are removed from their crates, fed, and watered at programmed stops. The handler makes sure that the crate is secured in the aircraft before takeoff and is removed from the aircraft as soon as possible upon reaching the destination. He is extremely careful at all times to prevent anyone from molesting the dog or allowing it to escape. He checks frequently to insure that the dog is comfortable while en route. It is usually desirable that the dogs be tranquilized prior to shipment (provided the dog is not be worked within 48 hours of arrival).

e. It must be remembered that the high noise, vibration, and noxious fumes levels found around many aircraft will cause shifts in threshold sensitivity levels of both handler and dog. Thus a dog would not be able to operate all its senses at peak efficiency immediately after exiting from aircraft, or for that matter, from a motorized

vehicle or boat. These impairments of sight, smell, and hearing usually are temporary and the dog, and handler, should be back to normal within 20 to 30 minutes.

24. During Hot Weather

To prevent heat stroke, care must be taken when transporting dogs in shipping crates. The following safeguards must be taken by dog handlers.

a. Transport dogs in air-conditioned or well-ventilated vehicles only.

b. At depots and terminals, give adequate and frequent supplies of fresh water.

c. In case of vehicular breakdown, unload each dog and take it to a cool place.

d. Load crates to effect maximum ventilation. Never place baggage on top of or immediately around a crate.

e. Avoid loading dogs into crates that have been standing in the sun.

f. Never allow crated dogs to stand in the sun; place them in a shaded, well-ventilated area.

g. Check dogs frequently to be sure that they are not becoming overheated.

25. During Inclement Weather

Metal cages transmit cold very easily to the occupants. The following safeguards must be taken by dog personnel:

a. Dogs will not be subjected to extremes of cold, wind, or precipitation. External protection will be provided.

b. Crated dogs will not be left in low lying areas or in standing water.

CHAPTER 5

PROCUREMENT, USE, AND MAINTENANCE OF MILITARY DOG EQUIPMENT

Section I. PROCUREMENT

26. What and When to Procure

Equipment allowances for the military dog program are listed in applicable tables of organization and equipment, tables of allowances, common tables of allowances, and supply bulletins.

They include the items described below in section II.

27. How and Where to Procure

All items of equipment are procured through normal supply channels except items of specialized equipment such as electronic training devices.

Section II. USE

28. General

The proper use of equipment is important because the military dog learns to associate each item of equipment with some activity in which it is involved. Through proper use of these items, the handler can communicate his wishes to the dog and control and discipline it. Each piece of equipment has been designed for a specific purpose. The handler must become acquainted with what the items are and how and why they are used in a certain way. The items of equipment described in this section are recommended because they have been tested and proved satisfactory for training purposes. This by no means implies that minor changes and improvements to equipment cannot be made to meet local requirements.

29. Leather Collar

a. The dog wears a leather collar (fig 5) while it is—

- (1) chained to a stake.
- (2) secured to the kennel box.

(3) being transported long distances in a shipping crate.

b. When putting the leather collar on the dog tighten the collar enough to insert only two fingers between the collar and the dog's neck (fig 5). This is done to prevent the collar from slipping off and to make sure that it is not too

loose. After the collar is adjusted and buckled in place, run the end of the collar through the loop so the buckle will not come unfastened.

30. Choke Chain

a. Another item of equipment which the dog wears around its neck is the choke chain. The dog normally wears the choke chain while performing obedience training, while being taken to or from its kennel, or while being transported in the back of a vehicle. The choke chain must be worn correctly. Instructions for putting the choke chain (fig 6) on the dog follow:

(1) Hold one of the rings of the chain in the right hand between the thumb and index finger; hold the other ring in the left hand between the thumb and index finger; hold the ring in the left hand so that it is in a flat or horizontal position.

(2) Raise the right hand directly over the left hand; allow the length of chain between the two rings to fall through the ring held in the left hand.

(3) Place the choke chain over the dog's head.

(4) Then snap the leash into the ring on the free end of the choke chain.

b. When the choke chain is on correctly, the pull of the leash is from left to right when the



Figure 5. Adjusting the leather collar.

dog is on the handler's left or "heel" side. This permits the chain to release when slack is given in the leash. If the pull is from right to left, the chain clings to the dog's neck and continues to choke it even though the leash has slack.

31. Training Leash

Two different leashes are used in dog work.

a. Leather, 60-inch. The 60-inch leather leash (fig 7) is used during training. When necessary, the leather leash is secured to the handler's wrist as shown in steps 1 through 2 of figure 7. This is known as a safety leash. To do this:

(1) Thread the snap end of the leash through the loop end of the leash, forming a loop which can be loosened or tightened.

(2) Insert right hand into the newly formed loop.

(3) Pull the snap end of the leash away from the loop end and tighten the leash around wrist.

b. Nylon-Web, 300-inch. The 300-inch leash (fig 8) is *always* used in intermediate obedience training to control the animal. When necessary, the handler can secure the 300-inch leash to his right wrist in the same manner as the 60-inch leash. Notice in the illustration that the 300-inch leash is rolled for carrying.

32. Kennel Chain

The 6-foot kennel chain (fig 9) is used for tying the dog to a stake or some other stationary object. This chain is *always* used with the leather collar and is never tied to the dog's neck. The chain is always carried to the training area. The chain can be carried by doubling it, and then



Figure 6. Placing the choke chain on the dog.

wrapping it around the handler's waist or diagonally across his body. The leather leash should not be used to stake out an animal during breaks in field training.

33. Equipment Holder

This holder (fig 10) is used to discourage the handler from hanging any equipment from his trouser belt loops. Items of equipment can be snapped to it and carried so that the handler's hands remain free.

34. Muzzle

A muzzle is a device by which a handler can prevent his dog from injuring other dogs, innocent people, or himself. One of the most commonly used muzzles is shown in figure 11. Normally, a dog does not wear a muzzle during training periods because it is distracting and the dog devotes its efforts toward removing the muzzle. Thus, the benefits of training are lost. However, dogs that are known to be aggressive should be muzzled while being groomed. Although grooming is

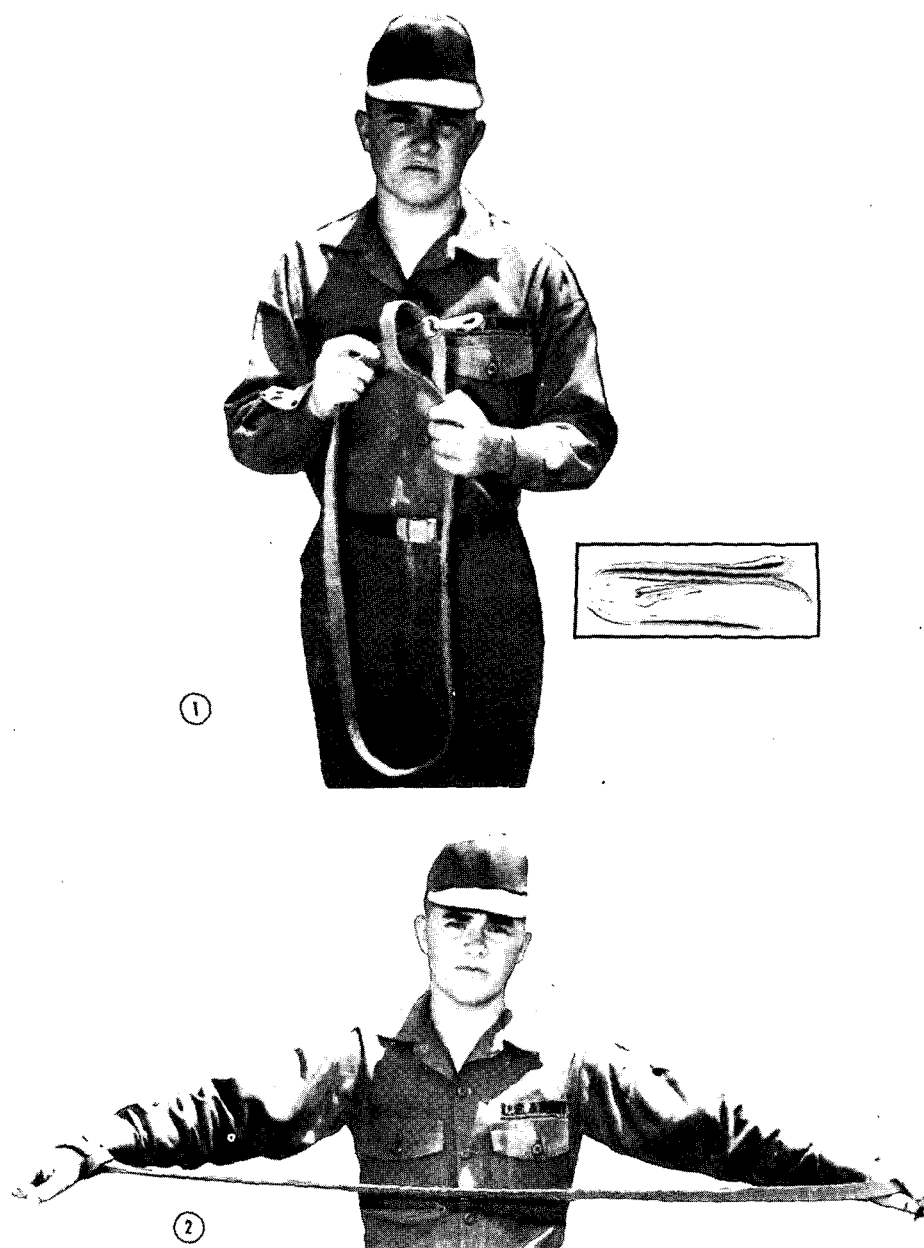


Figure 7. Securing leather leash to wrist.

generally enjoyable for the dog, it does not preclude the dog's biting. Any muzzle, particularly if it is too large or incorrectly adjusted, is not a guarantee against being bitten.

a. Use the steps shown in figure 11 when putting the muzzle on the dog.

(1) Hold the basket of the muzzle in right hand; fold all straps back over the basket of the muzzle.

(2) Place the basket of the muzzle over the dog's nose and mouth; bring the straps back over the dog's head.

(3) Secure the straps.

b. Each dog is fitted for its leather muzzle. The side straps must be adjusted so the dog's nose is not jammed against the inside of the basket. The strap around the dog's neck must be fastened tight enough to keep the muzzle on properly and yet afford the dog proper breathing. The fit of the muzzle must be closely checked from time to time because the straps stretch with age.

35. Comb

There are several types of grooming combs; one type is shown in figure 12. When combing the dog, comb lightly with the grain, never against

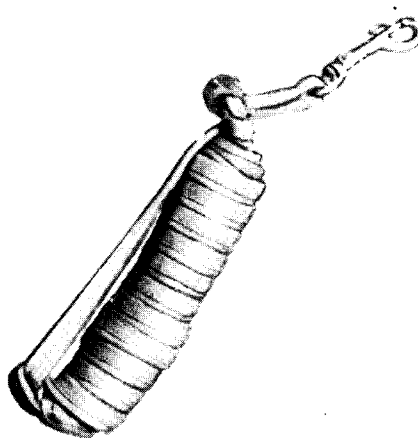


Figure 8. The 300-inch nylon web training leash.

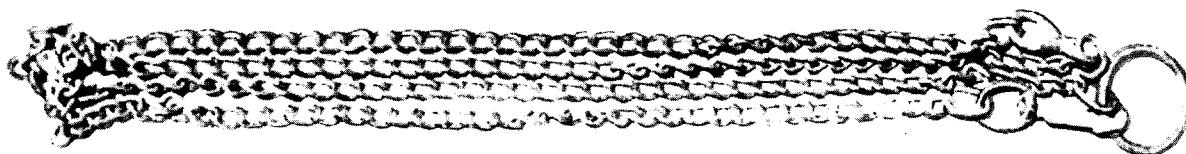


Figure 9. Kennel chain.

the grain. Always exert enough pressure on the comb to remove loose hair and all foreign matter, such as mud, from the coat. Use the comb sparingly since excessive combing removes the dog's undercoat and may scratch or cut the skin.

36. Brush

Different types of grooming brushes vary in size and shape; figure 13 shows one of the most common brushes in use. When a regular dog brush is not available, the common GI scrub brush is an excellent substitute, and it is readily available. The ideal brush is approximately the size of a man's hand and has firm, stiff bristles.

37. Feeding Pan

Another item of initial issue is the feeding pan. The feeding pan should have at least a 3-quart capacity. This is large enough to hold the dog's daily ration and allows it enough room to eat. Notice the heavy gauge stainless steel pan in figure 14. This type of pan is easy to keep clean and serviceable. Wash and sanitize the feeding pan immediately after each feeding.



Figure 10. Equipment holder.

38. Water Bucket

Another essential item of equipment is the water bucket. The water bucket (fig 15) is made of either steel or heavy gauge galvanized iron and has at least a 3 1/2-gallon capacity. Each dog must have a water bucket in its kennel unless automatic watering devices are in use. The bucket is cleaned daily, and fresh water should always be available to the dog. In cold weather, water in the bucket can be kept at the desired temperature by an immersion heater.



Figure 11. Fitting the muzzle.

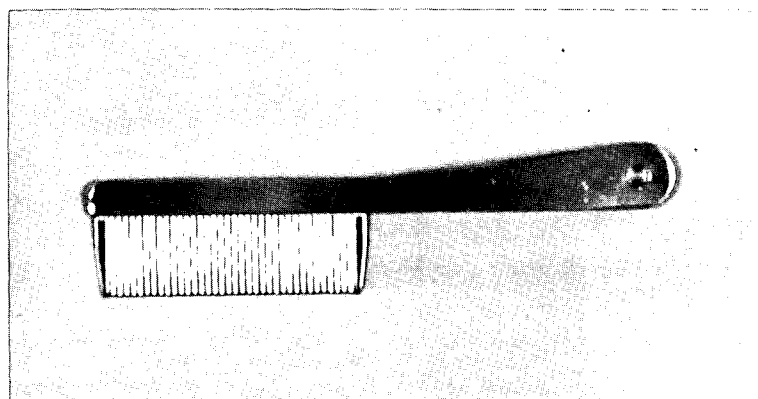


Figure 12. Dog comb.



Figure 13. Dog brush.

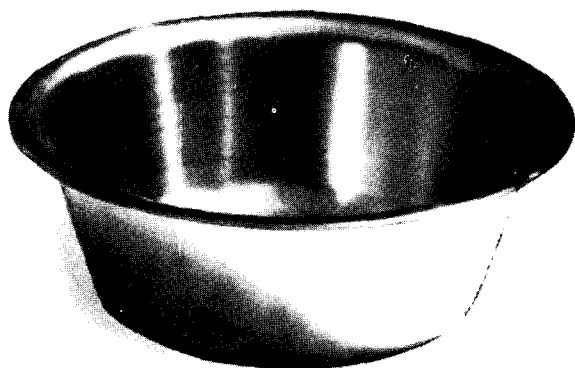


Figure 14. Feeding pan.

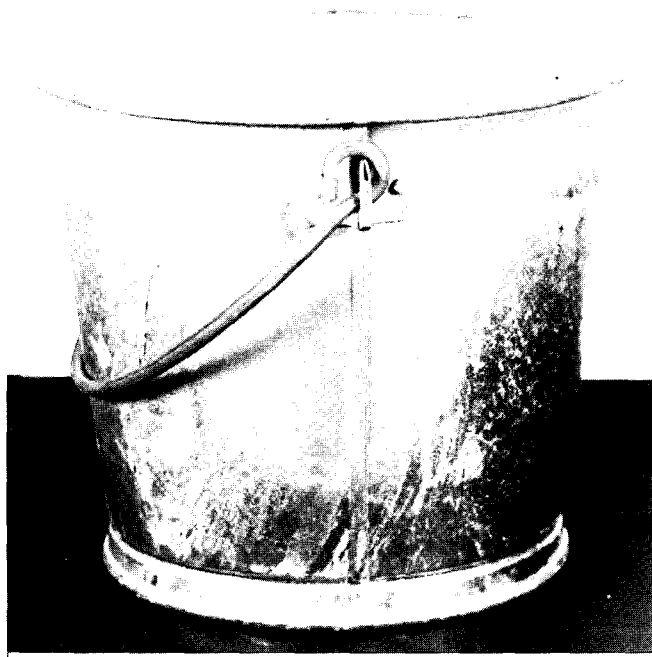


Figure 15. Water bucket.

Section III. MAINTENANCE

39. General

Equipment must be properly cared for so its usefulness can be prolonged as much as possible. However, safety is the first consideration in the maintenance of military dog equipment. When not properly cared for, this equipment soon rots or rusts so it can no longer withstand the strain put on it by a dog. For this reason, an inspection of all dog equipment should be

conducted daily. Any equipment which is found to be unserviceable must be repaired or replaced immediately.

40. Leather

To prevent the leash, collar, muzzle, and leash holder from becoming dry and brittle, saddle soap or neat's-foot oil should be applied as necessary. Wipe these items with a damp cloth if

they become muddy or dirty. Rub neat's-foot oil, as well as saddle soap, into the leather with the fingers until the leather is soft and pliable. Frequently inspect any leather equipment, including collars, which is kept in storage and treat it with neat's-foot, oil to insure that it remains clean, soft, pliable, and in good condition. When not in use, all leather items are kept in a dry location or on the equipment holder. Never leave leather items on the ground or on top of the dog's kennel where they may be exposed to the weather for long periods of time. When left in outdoor areas for extended periods, leather cracks and loses its tensile strength.

41. Metal

Metal equipment and the metal parts of equipment are inspected at least once each week. Remove spots of rust, no matter how small, by rubbing them with a fine grade of steel wool or sandpaper. Rub spots until all types of rust have been removed. To prevent rust from returning, apply a coat of an edible oil. Avoid leaving metal equipment in a wet or damp area. If an item of equipment becomes badly rusted, it should not be used again; it should be replaced. Water buckets which have rusted on the inside should be replaced.

PART TWO
HEALTH OF THE MILITARY DOG
CHAPTER 6
VETERINARY SERVICES

Section I. WHO PROVIDES THE SERVICES

42. Medical Service

In accordance with AR 40-1, the Army Veterinary Corps is responsible for providing veterinary medical service for military dogs at all levels of command. At installations to which dogs are assigned, post veterinarians and attending veterinarians provide this service.

43. Veterinarian

Professional veterinary services are available at military installations. The senior veterinarian assigned to an Army installation is designated as "veterinarian." At installations not having a veterinarian, an "attending veterinarian" provides medical care for dogs.

44. Attending Veterinarian

When conditions require it, military veterinary officers may be assigned, in addition to their other duties, as attending veterinarians for other conveniently located military installations. Under the provisions of AR 40-3, the commander or designated representative of the Army post or unit to which dogs are attached or assigned is authorized to approve civilian veterinary care for these dogs. However, such civilian veterinary medical care is authorized only when a military veterinarian is not available, or when veterinary medical requirements for care are beyond the capabilities of the local treatment facility. Regardless of who provides the veterinary medical services, all persons who are responsible in any way for the dog program should become familiar with the veterinary medical services that are available.

Section II. TYPES OF SERVICE

45. General

a. The Surgeon General, United States Army, through his Veterinary Service, provides professional support for the military dog program. This support includes medical care and treatment of military dogs at training facilities and duty stations; sanitary inspection of kennel facilities; the professional review of plans for new construction and modifications for kennels, support buildings, and sites; establishment of an adequate diet and feeding program; and instruction and guidance in all matters relative to the health of military dogs.

b. Through his training, knowledge, and ex-

perience, the veterinarian is skilled in providing treatment for the military dog that is affected by disease or injury. However, the veterinarian depends on the individual handler and the veterinary specialist for assistance. He depends on these individuals to detect and report health problems as soon as possible and to administer essential first aid measures in emergency situations. He also requires their assistance in the administration of medication to the dog.

c. There are a number of activities, other than the actual treatment of sick or injured animals, for which the veterinary officer must assume responsibility; some of these are discussed briefly in the paragraphs below.

46. Immunization

Military dogs are routinely immunized against four contagious diseases: canine distemper, infectious canine hepatitis, leptospirosis, and rabies. The immunization program is initiated at the procurement or training facility, and is continued on a periodic basis throughout the dog's service life.

47. Routine Physical Examinations

Military dogs receive a variety of routine physical examinations. These examinations by a veterinarian are conducted to detect evidence of injury or disease and are important in the control of communicable diseases as well as the safe shipment and continued well-being of the military dog.

a. Predeparture. A predeparture physical is given whenever a military dog is to be moved or shipped from one installation or command to another, shipped interstate, or shipped to a foreign country. At this time DD Form 1744 (Veterinary Health Certificate) is prepared and accompanies the dog.

b. Arrival. An arrival physical is given as soon as possible after arrival at a new installation and prior to contact with other animals.

c. Semiannual. Military dogs receive semiannual physicals in accordance with AR 40-655 and 40-905.

48. Facility Inspections

The veterinary officer also serves as an inspector of the military dog facilities; he inspects these facilities at frequent intervals. During these inspections, the veterinarian determines the standard of sanitation which is being maintained, the adequacy of insect and rodent control measures, and the general status of health of the dogs as evidenced by their appearance and state of grooming. He also examines the facilities for safety hazards and for disturbing influences which may interfere with the rest and relaxation of the dogs. He is interested in the structural

adequacy of the kennels and the suitability of their design for prevailing climatic conditions in the area, as well as the adequacy of the diet which the dogs are fed. As a result of these inspections, the veterinarian is able to make appropriate recommendations to help prevent disease and injury.

49. Zoonotic Disease Control Program

The term "Zoonotic disease control" refers to one of the very important functions of the veterinarian. The zoonoses are those diseases which may be naturally transmitted between vertebrate animals and man. Several of the diseases that affect dogs may be transmitted to personnel. Ringworm (a skin disease caused by a fungus), rabies, and leptospirosis are examples of such diseases. The veterinarian advises personnel about measures designed to prevent the transmission of zoonoses.

50. Instruction of Personnel

Another of the veterinarian's important functions is that of keeping personnel informed about matters concerning the health of military dogs. He instructs handlers and veterinary technicians in all matters concerning the health of their dogs. Care, management, feeding, and first aid are some of the subjects this training covers. Through this instruction, the veterinarian strives to give the handler a better understanding of the health needs of his dog and to increase the handler's capability to care for his dog.

51. Medical Records

The maintenance of current military dog medical records is another function in which the veterinarian must take an active part, in accordance with AR 40-905. Certain records must be kept relative to the health of each dog and to the medical care each receives. The veterinarian is responsible for entering on these records his medical observations of each dog and the immunizations, medical examinations, and treatments each receives. Medical records are covered in detail in chapter 9.

CHAPTER 7

HEALTH, CARE, AND FEEDING

Section I. DISEASES AND THEIR PREVENTION

52. General

a. The importance and nature of the work required of the Army military dog places it in a special class, even among the working breeds of dogs. The number of duty hours, the physical exertion, and the constant vigilance which must be maintained by the dog while on patrol are demanding on the dog's body. Thus, the health of the dog is important to the successful accomplishment of the team's function, and every effort must be made to keep the animal in the best possible state of health.

b. The veterinarian is able to apply his skill and training in his efforts towards treatment, prevention, and control of diseases, but he requires the handler's help. The handler must be able to recognize signs of disease and immediately report these to the veterinarian.

53. Contagious Diseases of Dogs

A contagious disease is one which can be transmitted or spread from one animal to another. Some of the contagious diseases of dogs can be spread not only from one dog to another but also to man. This section emphasizes the handler's responsibilities in providing for his dog's health. It is not feasible to present here all of the many diseases which can affect dogs; therefore, only the most common and most serious diseases are discussed. For further detailed information, refer to TM 8-450.

a. *Canine Distemper*. This is a widespread viral disease. It is a very serious, highly contagious disease, and it is often fatal. It is a common disease of dogs, with puppies and nonvaccinated dogs being most susceptible. Canine distemper is usually spread from one infected dog to another through the air. Many of the tissues and organs of the body (including the brain, lungs, and intestines) are affected by this virus. An infected animal may show the following signs: yellowish discharge from the eyes and nose, coughing, fever,

loss of appetite, loss of vitality, diarrhea, and convulsions. Vaccination is an extremely important and effective method of controlling canine distemper.

b. *Infectious Canine Hepatitis*. This is also a widespread viral disease of dogs; and, as with distemper, it is seen most commonly in young dogs but may affect animals of all ages. The majority of infected animals recover after a long period of recuperation. Infectious canine hepatitis is spread from one animal to another through contaminated feeding and drinking pans and through the urine from infected dogs. Primarily, this virus affects the blood vessels of the liver. Signs of the disease resemble those of *distemper* in many cases, and it is often difficult to distinguish between the two diseases. The most prominent symptoms are fever, loss of vitality, and loss of appetite. Immunization is used to prevent this disease.

c. *Leptospirosis*. The disease is caused by spiral micro-organisms of the genus leptospira, and it is fairly common in dogs. Animals other than dogs can be infected by the disease, and it can be transmitted to man. It is a serious disease and many infected dogs die. Leptospirosis is spread through the urine of the infected animals. Dogs and rats are common sources of infection. Signs may include muscular stiffness and soreness, fever, reddening of the membranes of the mouth and eyes, loss of appetite, vomiting, and diarrhea. As with distemper and infectious canine hepatitis, immunization is the method used to prevent the disease. To control the spread of leptospirosis, the kennel area must be kept free of rats, and the food and water supply must be protected from contamination by urine from infected dogs. The possibility of human infection with leptospirosis points out the need for personal hygiene when handling dogs. Since there are several diseases which can be passed from dog to man, the handler must *always* wash his hands thoroughly after handling his dog. In localities

in which leptospirosis is known or suspected to exist dogs should not be allowed to unnecessarily enter streams, rivers, or other bodies of water since they may be contaminated from the urine of infected animals.

d. Rabies. This disease, also called hydrophobia, is one of the most serious diseases of men and animals. It is caused by a virus and affects all warmblooded animals. Some countries of the world are free of the disease, but in most, including the United States, it is still a problem. It is spread through the saliva of infected animals; for this reason, it is usually associated with a bite from an infected animal. All warmblooded animals may be infected by rabies, and most infected animals die. In the United States, some of the animals most frequently affected are skunks, raccoons, bats, foxes, dogs, cattle, and cats. In an animal with rabies, the nerves, spinal cord, and brain are the parts of the body which are most affected. Signs of rabies may include a sudden change of disposition, excitement difficulty in swallowing water or food, paralysis, and coma. Dogs with rabies often have a paralysis of the muscles in the jaw and the lower jaw remains partially dropped. Such an animal may appear to have something lodged in the mouth or throat. It is always wise for the handler to have an animal with such symptoms examined by a veterinarian rather than attempt an examination himself. Immunization against rabies is required by AR 40-655. Because rabies is spread through the saliva of an infected animal the handler should report to the veterinarian any wounds he or his dog receive by being bitten, even though the biting animal appeared healthy at the time of the biting; this includes handlers who are bitten by their own dogs.

e. Tropical Canine Pancytopenia. Tropical Canine Pancytopenia (TCP) is an infectious disease affecting large numbers of military dogs in Southeast Asia. Especially affected are German Shepherds. The most common sign of the disease is nosebleed, which may be accompanied by swollen legs, small or large hemorrhages in the skin, loss of weight, decrease in appetite, very high fever, weakness, and difficulty in breathing. Very often death occurs within 7 days following the onset of characteristic signs, although some dogs may live several months before succumbing to the disease. The disease is believed to be transmitted by ticks. Decrease and/or complete absence of the disease is seen where strict tick control methods are employed. There is no known treatment or vaccine for TCP. Tetracycline therapy may be effective in helping to control and prevent new outbreaks of the disease, especially

when used in conjunction with good tick control measures. Most methods of treatment, including antibiotics and whole-blood transfusions, have not been too successful once the animal shows apparent signs of TCP, consequently strict control of tick infestations is of the utmost importance.

54. Parasitic Infections

Parasites that live on the outside of a host's body, such as ticks, fleas, and mites, are called external parasites; those that live inside the body, such as various worms, are called internal parasites. Many of these live in the intestines, and one type lives in the dog's heart. All parasites are harmful to the health of the dog, and some can spread diseases to the dog or to the handler. Parasites should be controlled as much as possible. When speaking of parasites, the term "life cycle" refers to the stages of development in the parasite's life from its beginning as an egg or larva (immature form) to the time it becomes an adult. A knowledge of the life cycle is important in the control of parasites.

a. External Parasites. The parasites discussed here are all small insects. These parasites, which live on and in the skin, cause damage by sucking blood or by feeding on the dog's tissues. In doing so they produce an irritation, and the dog responds by biting and scratching at itself.

(1) *Ticks.* These small parasites are common in many parts of the world. They suck the blood from the animal and, when present in large numbers, may cause a serious anemia. Ticks can most often be observed standing still on the dog's body with their heads buried deep in the skin. Through their bites, ticks are important vectors of disease producing agents, such as bacteria and rickettsiae in animals as well as man. Exercise care when handling ticks and request instructions from the veterinary officer before trying to remove them. Ticks do not necessarily spend all of their lives on the body of the dog. They may be found in bedding or in cracks in the floors and sides of the kennel; they may be present in the grass and bushes of the training and working areas. Control, therefore, does not depend only on treating the individual animal. It may also be necessary to treat the kennels and training and working areas with insecticides. Treatment with insecticides must be accomplished only with the approval of the veterinary officer, as many chemicals can be harmful to dogs.

(2) *Fleas.* These pests torment the dog, irritate its skin, and spread disease; they are most often observed as they crawl or hop very rapidly

through the dog's coat of hair. They are very difficult to control because they do not spend all of their time on the body but live in bedding and in the cracks of the kennel. Control depends upon repeated individual treatment and kennel sanitation.

(3) *Lice*. There are two types of lice which affect dogs: biting lice and sucking lice. Biting lice live off the dog's tissues; sucking lice suck the dog's blood. Both produce great irritation. Biting lice may be observed crawling over the skin and through the hair. When feeding, sucking lice are usually immobile and attach themselves so that they are perpendicular to the skin of the host. The eggs of lice are called nits and are found as small white or gray crescent shaped objects fastened to the hairs. Lice, unlike fleas and ticks, can live only a short time when they are not on the dog's body. Control therefore, depends more on the treatment of affected animals.

(4) *Mites*. There are several types of small parasites called mites which affect dogs and produce a condition known as mange. One of these, the ear mite, lives in the ear canals and causes a severe irritation. Affected dogs not only scratch at the ears but may hold their heads to one side and frequently shake their heads. The ear canals usually contain a large amount of dark-colored discharge. Ear mites are small but are visible to the naked eye as tiny white crawling specks. Most of the other mites which affect the dog live in the animal's skin, but one lives in the nasal passages. These mites are too small to be seen with the naked eye and can be seen only with the aid of a microscope. The control of mites depends on the treatment of the affected animal.

b. Internal Parasites. The parasites which live in the body may cause damage by irritating the tissues, by constantly robbing the body of blood or essential parts of the diet, or by interfering with a specific body action. Of the internal parasites discussed here, only a part of the life cycle is spent in the body of the infected dog. The control measures for these parasites are based largely on a knowledge of that part of the life cycle which is spent *outside* the body.

(1) *Hookworms*. One of the most harmful parasites that lives in the dog's intestine is the hookworm. These parasites are small and thread-like, only $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{4}{5}$ of an inch in length. They suck blood and also cause blood loss by grasping and tearing at the intestinal wall with the many teeth in their mouths. Figure 16 shows the life cycle of a hookworm. The adult lives in the dog's intestine, and eggs are produced by the female hookworms. The eggs are passed in the infected

dog's feces. Immature hookworms (larvae) develop from these eggs, and these larvae can then infect the same dog or another dog. The larvae gain entrance to the body by penetrating the dog's skin or by being swallowed as the dog licks the ground or himself. After the larvae gain entrance to the body, they pass directly to the intestine or migrate through the body tissues to the lungs. Those reaching the lungs are coughed up and swallowed, thereby reaching the intestine. Once they are in the intestine, they develop into adult hookworms and the life cycle begins again. Dogs infected with hookworms may have a variety of symptoms, depending on the severity of the infection. Membranes of the mouth and eyes may be pale; feces may be loose and contain blood; the animal may lose weight. The veterinarian makes a diagnosis of the disease when, by microscopic examination, he finds hookworm eggs in the animal's feces. Control measures consist of treating the individual animal and, to a large extent, on good sanitation. The handler who has a knowledge of the hookworm's life cycle should understand the importance of keeping the kennel area and training ground free of feces, since feces from infected dogs are the source of infection for healthy animals.

(2) *Roundworms*. These adult parasites also live in the intestine. They are much larger than hookworms and vary in length from 2 to 8 inches. Adult roundworms cause trouble by depriving the affected animal of essential nutrients in the diet. The life cycle is similar to that of the hookworm but the eggs do not develop into larvae until swallowed. They then enter the blood stream and migrate to such organs as the liver, kidney, and lungs, producing great damage in the process. Most finally reach the lungs where they are coughed up and swallowed to return to the intestine to mature. Symptoms shown by an infected animal may include vomiting, diarrhea, loss of weight, and coughing. As with hookworms, the diagnosis is made by finding the eggs in the feces; occasionally, adult worms may be vomited or passed in the feces, in which case they may be seen by the handler. Control measures depend upon treating the individual animal and upon good sanitation in the kennel area.

(3) *Whipworms*. These intestinal parasites are much smaller than roundworms but larger than hookworms. The life cycle is different from that of the hookworms and roundworms in that the whipworm larvae do not enter the bloodstream or migrate to other organs; they mature in the intestine of the dog. Symptoms of infection may include diarrhea, loss of weight, and paleness of the membranes of the mouth and eyes. The

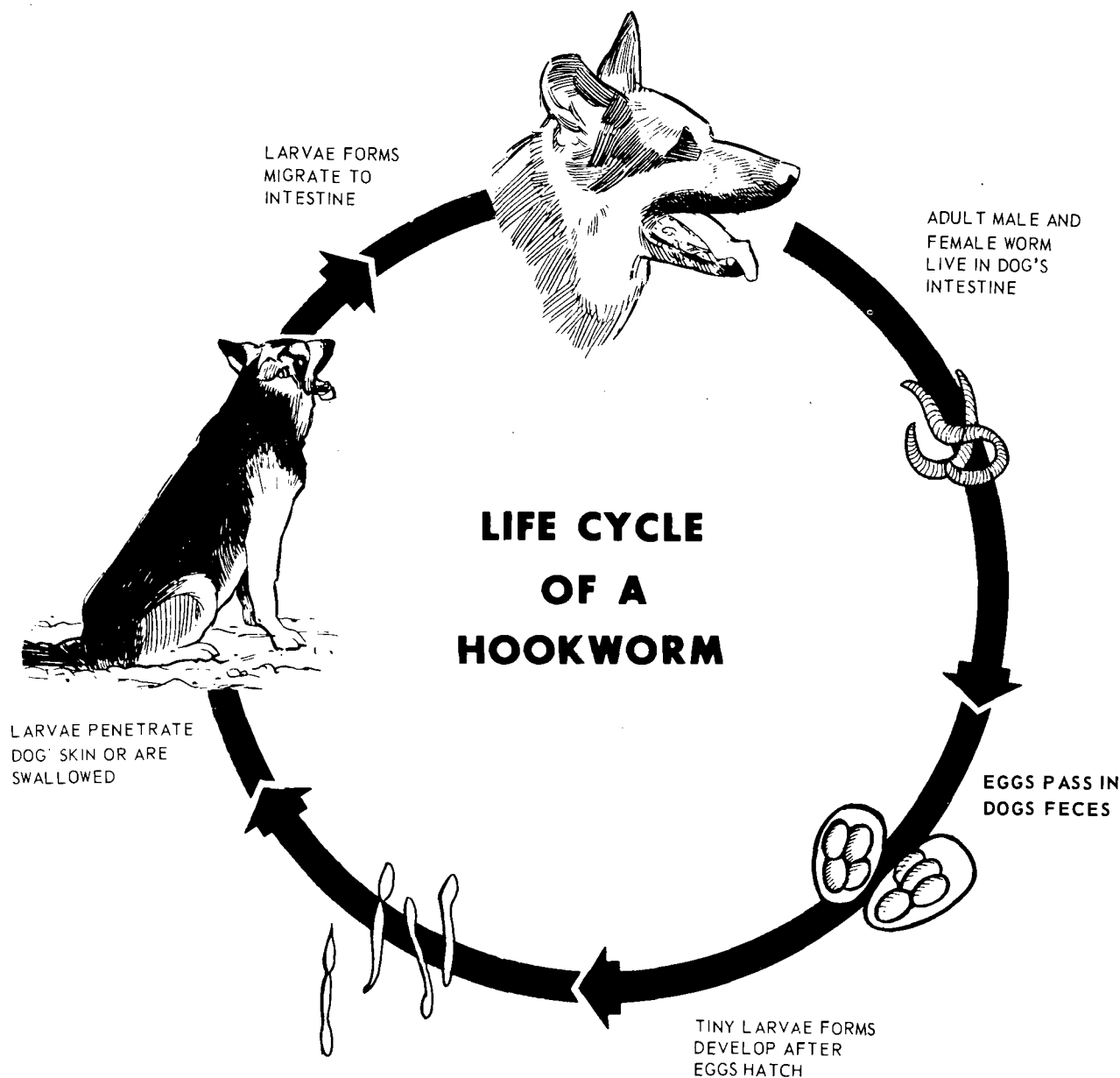


Figure 16. Life cycle of hookworm.

diagnosis is made by microscopic observation of the characteristic eggs in the feces. Control measures depend upon treating the individual animal and upon good sanitation in the kennel area.

(4) *Tapeworms*. These worms are long, flat, and ribbonlike in appearance. They have many segments and a head. The tapeworm uses its head to attach itself to the wall of the intestine. Several kinds of tapeworms may infect the dog's intestine; only one of the most common ones is described here. As figure 17 shows, the life cycle of the tapeworm is rather complex. After the proglottids with eggs have passed in the dog's

feces, they are eaten by the larvae (immature form) of the dog flea, the external parasite previously described. The larva of the tapeworm develops in the flea; and when the adult flea is eaten by a dog, the tapeworm larva gains entrance to the dog's intestines where it develops into an adult tapeworm. The symptoms produced by tapeworms may not be too noticeable. They may include diarrhea, loss of appetite, and loss of weight. Some tapeworms pass through the bodies of rabbits, mice, or squirrels (instead of the flea) during their life cycle. Dogs become infected by eating a rabbit or other animal which

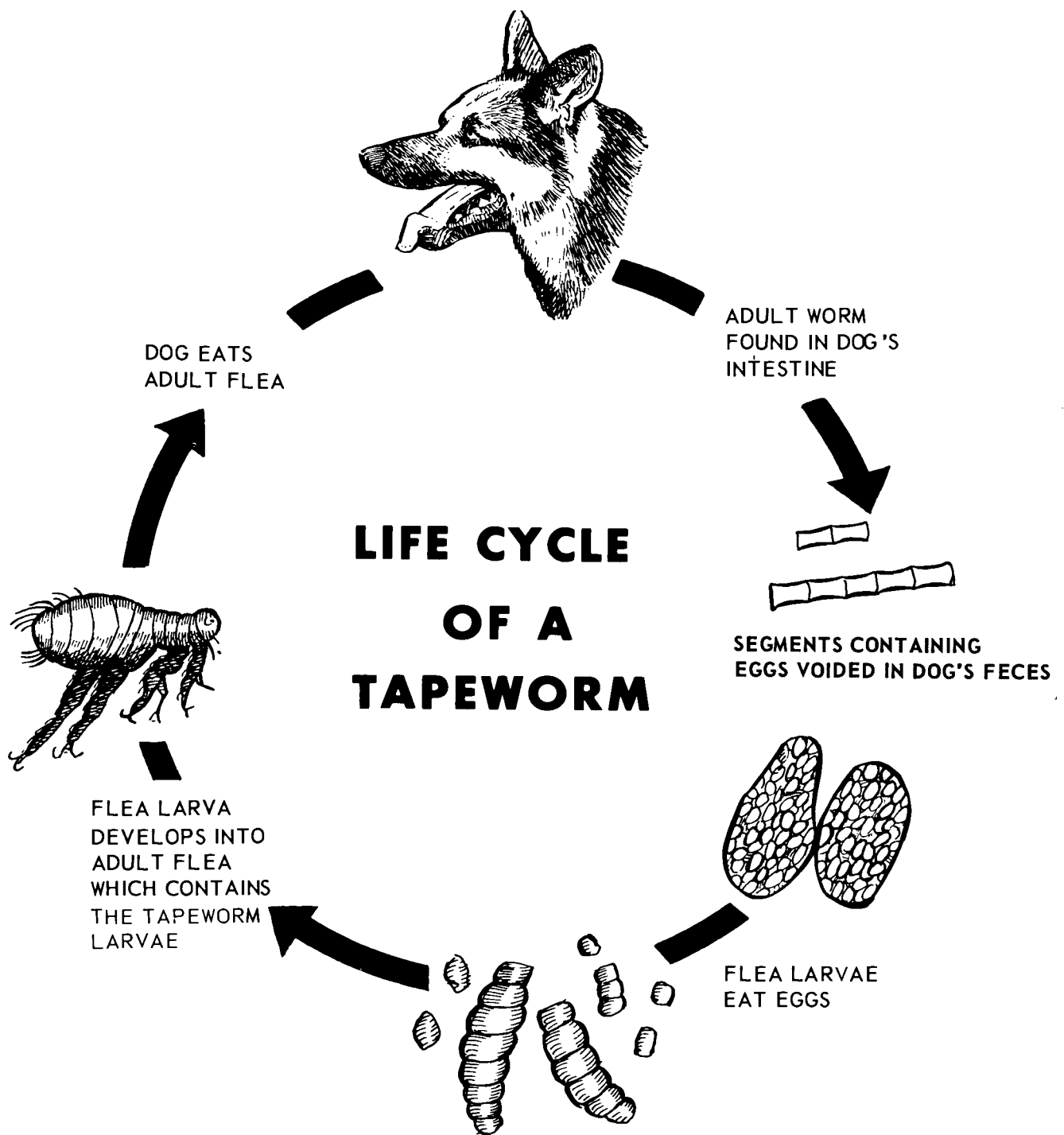


Figure 17. Life cycle of tapeworm.

contains the tapeworm larvae. Often the eggs of the tapeworm cannot be detected by the veterinarian during feces examinations. Many times, however, segments may be seen in the feces or among the hairs in the dog's anal region. They are small white objects about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch long and they may be moving in a rhythmic manner. Control measures include treatment of the infected animal, good sanitation in the kennel area,

control of fleas, and not allowing the dog to eat animals which are likely sources of infection.

(5) *Heartworms*. Unlike the other internal parasites that have been described, the adult heartworm is found in the heart and lungs rather than in the intestine. The heartworm interferes with the dog's heart action and circulation. The adult worms are threadlike in appearance and are from 6 to 11 inches long. As the life cycle

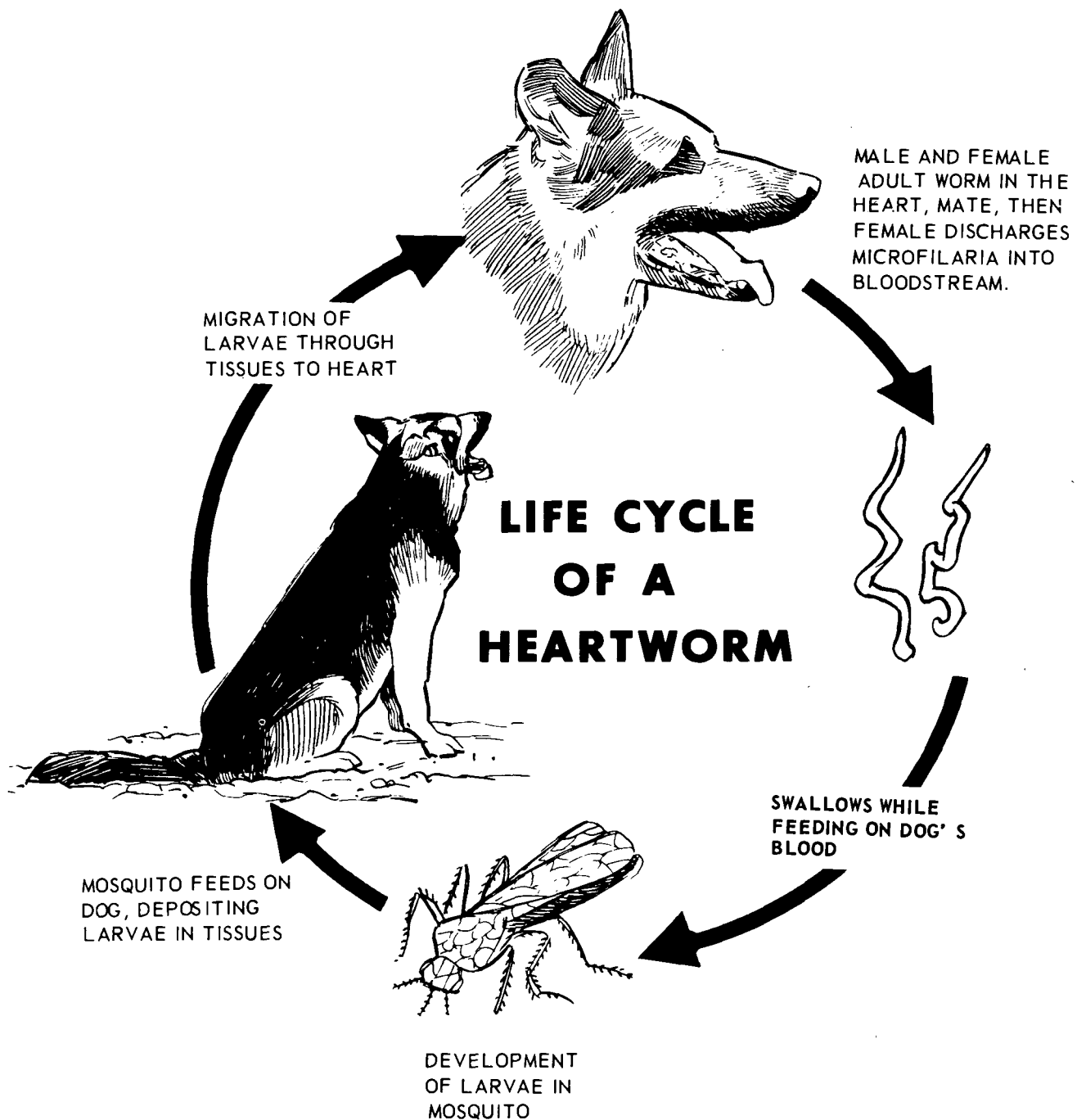


Figure 18. Life cycle of heartworm.

in figure 18 shows, the adult worms in the heart produce larvae which are called microfilariae. These microfilariae circulate in the infected animal's bloodstream where they may be picked up by mosquitoes, the insect responsible for the spread of the heartworm parasite from one dog to another. The larvae continue their development in the mosquito and then after a period of time are introduced into a dog's tissues as the mosquito is biting. The microfilariae mature

and then travel to the heart of the dog and develop into adults; the life cycle is ready to begin again. Dogs infected with heartworms may exhibit coughing, loss of weight, difficult breathing, and a loss of stamina. The disease is diagnosed by the veterinarian when he finds microfilariae during a blood test. Treatment is then given to kill the adult worms and the microfilariae. Control measures consist of treating and quarantining infected dogs to prevent them from serving as

sources of infection, and of controlling mosquitoes in the area. Treatment of infected dogs includes kennel rest of up to 6 months.

55. Sanitation

Cleanliness is one of the most important factors contributing to the good health of dogs. Sanitary measures must be practiced in and around the kennel area at all times, and a good standard of cleanliness must be maintained. The existence of a good standard of sanitation in a kennel facility does not just happen; it is the result of a cooperative effort on the part of the handlers, supervisors, kennel support personnel, and the veterinary officer. Through their knowledge of the needs of each kennel, the veterinarian and supervisors arrive at the standard of sanitation which must be maintained; each handler and the kennel support personnel are responsible for maintaining the established standard. The existence of a disease in one dog, which might be passed on to another dog or to all of the dogs in the unit, is the concern of every handler. A disease which spreads through the kennels may seriously impair the effectiveness of a handler's unit if a large number of animals become ill and have to be removed from duty. Disease control and sanitation cannot be separated, and there are many specific ways in which a good level of sanitation can be maintained.

a. Kitchen. The kitchen in the kennel support building must be kept as clean as possible. Food prepared with dirty hands and in dirty utensils is a source from which a dog may contract some disease. To prevent disease, clean and sanitize the food and water pans daily, and constantly maintain the kitchen in a clean condition. When transporting feed pans from the kitchen to the individual dogs, never stack the pans on top of one another. The bottom of one pan may pass dirt or disease to the food in another pan. Clean the utensils used in the preparation of food immediately after each food preparation period. One particular piece of equipment which must be cleaned is the can opener; clean the blade after each food preparation period. Clean clothes and clean hands are important items for personnel engaged in food preparation. Store food in rat-proof areas so that dry meal or cans are not soiled by rat urine or stools. The type of food

used is also important—use only those foods approved by the veterinary officer.

b. Kennels. The kennels must be kept clean and in a good state of repair. Clean each occupied kennel daily. Sweep kennels each day and scrub them at least once each week, more often if necessary. In cold climates, place straw or other material on the floor of each kennel for bedding; stir straw bedding daily and change it at least once each week. Other bedding is changed as needed. Replace wet or damp bedding immediately. When a dog is moved from one kennel to another, old bedding, if present, is removed and burned. The kennel is cleaned thoroughly and disinfected as outlined by the veterinary officer. Use only those disinfectants approved by the veterinarian. Whenever possible, expose the cleaned and disinfected kennels to sunlight.

c. Runs. These are the areas around the individual kennel which are surfaced with cement or gravel. The proper care of runs is important and must be accomplished routinely. As previously mentioned, feces are a common source of infection in the spread of disease. Remove them from the runs as often as necessary during the day. Before washing down cement runs, remove as much of the feces as possible. This prevents the splashing of feces into an adjacent run, on the ground around the run, or on a dog in the adjacent run. The method of disposing of feces depends on local conditions at each particular kennel and on the type of sewage disposal system which is present. Where feces must be carried from the kennel area in cans, these cans must be cleaned and disinfected after each use. Disposal plastic liners inside cans are desirable. Usually two or more thicknesses must be used.

d. Kennel Area in General. In the entire kennel area, there must be no accumulation of refuse and garbage which would attract rats and insects. The area, particularly the training grounds, must be kept free of feces. In regions where mosquitoes are a problem, control measures must be taken around ditches and swampy areas which are in the vicinity of the kennels. Several kinds of disinfectants can be used around a kennel area. They can be used to disinfect feeding pans, kennels, and runs. Disinfectants and disinfecting procedures must be used only with the approval of the veterinary officer.

Section II. CARE

56. Grooming and Inspection

Routine grooming and inspection are important events in the life of a military dog—so important, in fact, that they must be accomplished on a daily basis the year around. The handler must realize that grooming is essential to the proper care of the dog's skin and coat of hair. During the inspection of his dog, the handler looks for signs of illness or disease which may be affecting the health of the animal. A large part of the inspection is performed while the dog is being groomed. The daily grooming and inspection period should be a pleasant experience for the handler and his dog. This is the time when the two of them can relax while they do something useful together. The dog looks forward to its daily grooming, and the handler knows that he

is contributing directly to the fulfillment of his responsibility for the dog's health.

a. Grooming. German Shepherd dogs have a double coat of hair. The deeper layer or undercoat is composed of soft woolly hair, and the outercoat is composed of stiff hair which is somewhat oily and water resistant. The coat offers the dog protection from rain, excessive heat, and cold.

(1) To groom the dog, first give it a brisk rubdown with the fingertips moving against the grain, then rub with the grain to remove the hair as shown in step 1 of figure 19. This loosens any dead skin, hair, or dirt and brings it to the surface; it also massages the skin. Follow the rubdown with a thorough but gentle brushing against the grain, as shown in step 2, to remove the loosened skin, hair, and dirt. Next, brush the

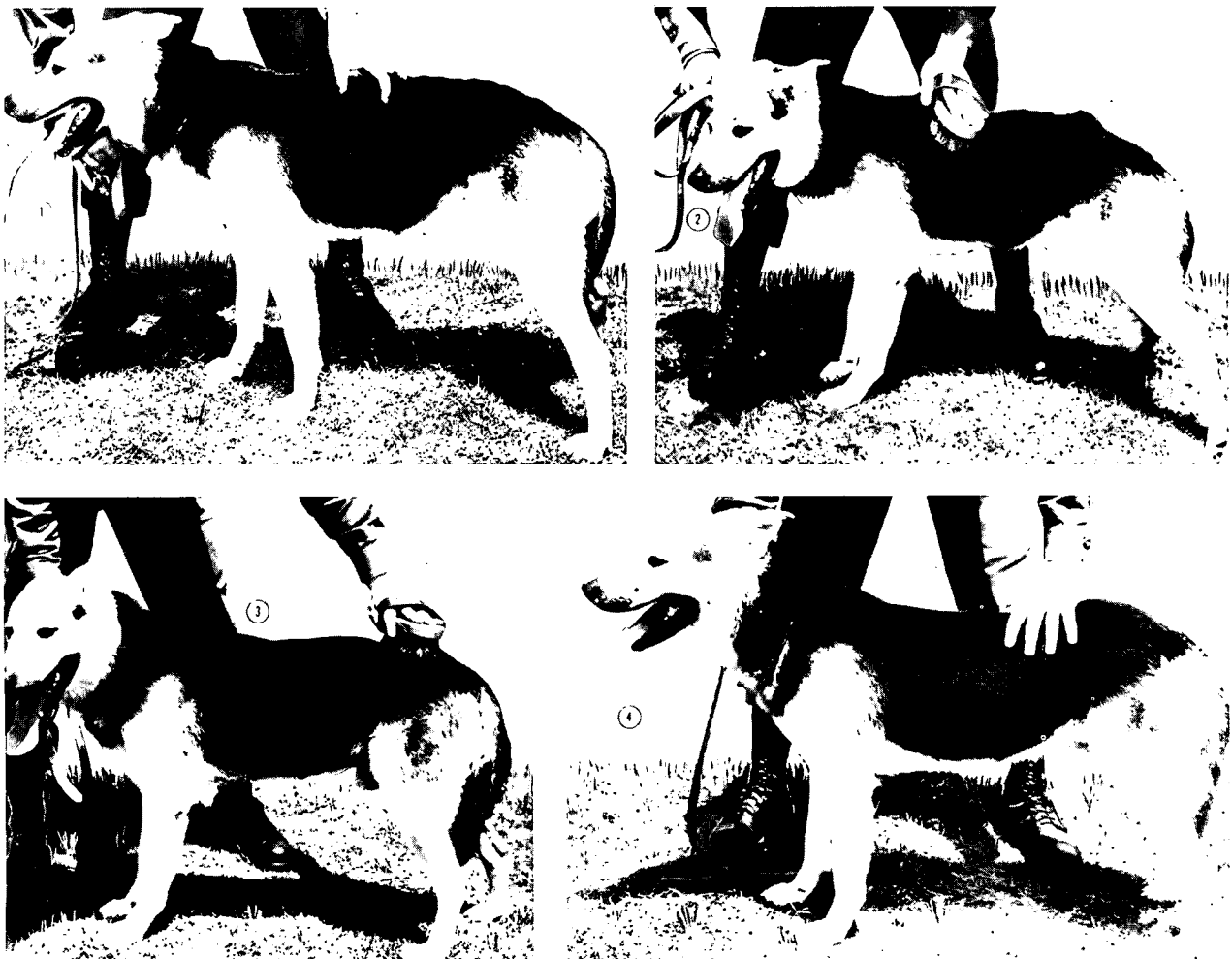


Figure 19. Grooming.

coat with the grain, as shown in step 3. This returns the hair to its natural position. Finally, rub the coat with the palms of the hands with the grain of the hair, as shown in step 4. This helps distribute the oil and gives the coat a glossy appearance. Occasionally, comb the dog's coat; but in the winter, combing should be limited to avoid tearing out the warm undercoat.

(2) Bathing is not a part of routine grooming, but occasionally a bath may be necessary. A dog's skin has many glands which produce an oily substance. This oily substance keeps the skin soft and prevents it from drying and cracking. In addition, it protects the coat of hair and makes it water repellent. When a dog is bathed too often, the natural oil is removed and the skin and hair become unnaturally dry, resulting in skin problems.

(3) Rely on the advice of the veterinary officer as to the frequency of bathing, the type of soap to use, and how to protect the dog's eyes and ears. A thorough rinsing after the bath is important; if soap is left in the coat it becomes sticky, collects dirt, and may cause skin irritation.

(4) Dry the dog with a towel or suitable substitute. After it has been dried as thoroughly as possible, the dog may be gently exercised in the sun to complete the drying. Do not bathe a dog in cold or wet weather unless it can remain in a warm place until completely dry.

b. Inspection. Routine daily inspection is a part of, but is by no means limited to, the grooming and inspection period. During the formal grooming and inspection period, take this opportunity to check over each part of the dog's anatomy for signs or symptoms of illness or injury. Inspection, however, is a continuing process, so always be alert for symptoms of illness or injury.

(1) After the handler has had his dog for some time, he knows what the dog should look like and how it should act when healthy and well. The handler knows what is normal for his dog: how its coat of hair looks, how many bowel movements it has a day, and how much it eats each day. When making his daily inspection, he uses this knowledge to detect anything about his dog which is abnormal. For example, the animal may not have eaten all of its food for a day or two; it may have an area of hair loss and reddened skin somewhere on the body; or it may have a discharge coming from the nose.

(2) When a handler notices anything abnormal about the appearance or actions of his dog, he reports it immediately. Do not attempt to diagnose the illness and apply home remedies,

which can often do more harm than good. Rely on the veterinarian who is trained to provide expert medical care for the dog. The veterinarian depends on the handler to detect and report any symptoms of illness or injury. The early detection of any illness or injury is important, if treatment begins early, the dog has a better chance for a rapid and complete recovery.

(3) The handler must learn the terms which are used to describe the various parts of a dog's external anatomy. This enables him to read intelligently about his dog, to report symptoms of illness or injury accurately, and to understand the veterinarian's instructions for treatment. Figure 20 is designed to aid the handler in learning the parts of his dog's anatomy.

(4) During inspection, it is necessary that the handler check some specific places on his dog for symptoms of disease and injury.

(a) *Eyes.* The dog's eyes are often referred to as the mirror of its body. This means that illnesses of the body are frequently accompanied by changes in the eyes. In addition, many illnesses affect only the eyes. Normally, a dog's eyes are bright and clear. The surrounding membranes should be a healthy pink in color. The small wedge-shaped membrane at the inner corner of the eyes is known as the nictitating membrane or the third eyelid. Normally, this covers only a very small part of the inner portion of the eye. Look for any of the following symptoms of illness or injury: a reddish or yellowish discoloration of the membranes and whites of the eyes, paleness of the membranes of the eyes, the presence of whitish or yellowish discharges from the eyes, and cloudiness or other discoloration of the clear portion of the eyes (cornea). Other symptoms to watch for are puffiness of the lids, the lids held partially or completely closed, or the nictitating membranes covering more than the normal part of the cornea. Be careful not to injure the dog's eyes when examining them.

(b) *Nose.* The black pad at the end of a dog's nose is usually shiny and moist. If it is persistently dry and dull, this may be a symptom of illness. Other symptoms to look for are: the presence of a watery, yellowish, or red-tinged discharge coming from or caked around the external openings of the nose; sneezing, snorting, and pawing at the nose. Do not probe into the dog's nose with any object under any circumstances.

(c) *Ears.* The erect external portion of the ear is called the ear flap. Leading downward from the base of the ear flap is the ear canal. The portion of the canal which can be seen with the

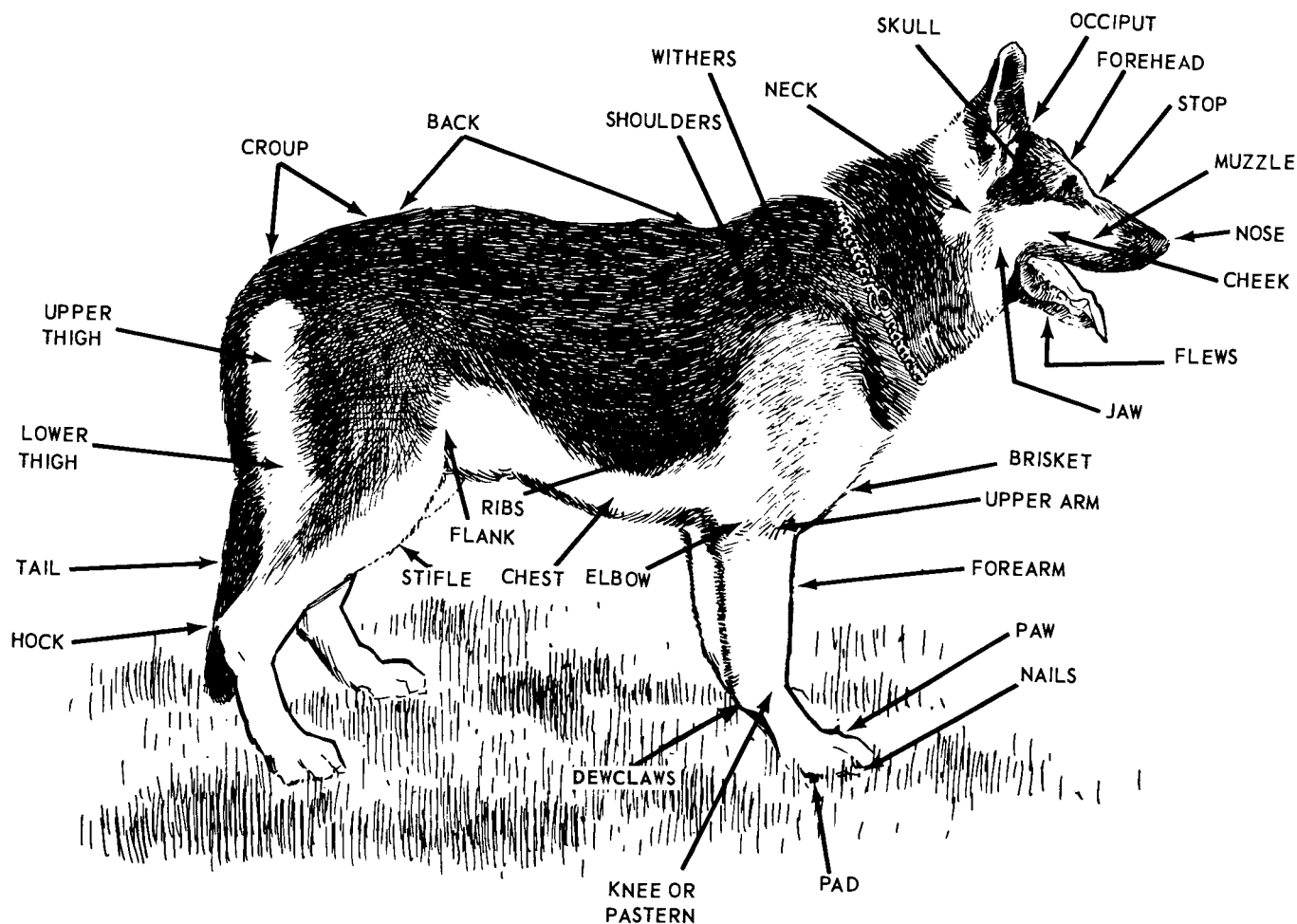


Figure 20. External anatomy of the dog.

naked eye is known as the vertical canal. The deeper portion, which cannot be seen, is the horizontal canal. Small quantities of brownish wax are frequently seen in the vertical canal and are normal. The presence of a reddish discoloration, swelling, or large amounts of discharge in the ear canal are abnormal and should be reported. Other symptoms to report include: a foul odor coming from the canals, shaking of the head, drooping of one or both ears, holding the ear-flap down, holding the head to one side, twitching the ear, scratching or pawing at the ear, and evidence of pain when the ear is touched. Dirt and wax can be removed from the inner part of the earflap in a number of ways. Consult the veterinarian about the method to use. Have the ears checked by the veterinarian even when they appear to only need cleaning, because something else may be wrong. *Never* probe into the ears canal with any object.

(d) *Mouth.* When the handler looks into the dog's mouth, numerous things are checked.

Normally, the gums and inner aspect of the lips are salmon pink. The teeth are firm and shining white in color. Symptoms of illness to look for include paleness of the gums and membranes, redness and bleeding of the gums, sores of various types, persistent drooling, bloody saliva, and a foul breath. Loose and broken teeth, tartar accumulations on the teeth, and foreign objects lodged between the teeth are other conditions to report. Also notice any gagging or pawing at the mouth.

(e) *Skin and hair coat.* Under normal conditions, the hair coat of the dog has a glossy appearance the dog is well fed and well groomed, and the skin is soft and pliable. The hair coat is subject to changes in appearance when the climate and season change. The undercoat is thicker and more prominent in cold climates or seasons, shedding is more noticeable in hot climates or seasons. These changes in the dog's coat are normal. The following conditions are indications of skin trouble: reddening, scabbing, moist dis-

charges, scratching, shedding that is abnormal for the season or climate, loss of hair in one or several spots, dryness, and loss of pliability. Always watch for fleas, ticks, and lice. Frequently these insects and parasites are first noticed around the ears, at the back of the neck, along the backbone, and around the tail and anal regions.

(f) *Feet*. Proper care and attention must be given to the dog's feet if the animal is to carry out its duties effectively. Inspect the dog's feet for foreign objects that may be caught in the pads or hair, for cuts and bruises, and for abrasion of the pads. The dog usually keeps its nails worn to the proper length so the tips of the nails do not touch the ground when it stands. Sometimes, however, the nails become so long they can interfere with the dog's work. Report this and any broken or split nails. Pay particular attention to the nails on the dewclaws since they are not worn down by contact with the ground and may grow until they curve back into the dog's leg. Note any lameness shown by the dog because this may indicate a foot problem.

(g) *Limbs*. Carefully check the legs of the dog, as well as the feet. Wounds, swellings, and sores of various kinds may be found. Lameness is also a common symptom of problems in the legs and is reported at once. On the forelegs opposite the outer part of the elbow there may develop an area of hairless, thickened skin known as a callus. This is an area about an inch in diameter. When the dog lies down or gets up, a pressure and abrasive action are exerted on the callus, and it may become inflamed. If this happens report it to the veterinarian.

(h) *Genitals*. If the dog is a male, there are certain things to look for in the genital organs. The penis is located in a fold of skin known as the prepuce or sheath. Normally, a small amount of greenish-yellow discharge comes from the prepuce which the dog removes while cleaning itself. If this discharge is present in excessive amounts, report it to the veterinarian. The penis is subject to a variety of injuries; report immediately the appearance of blood from the prepuce. The scrotum is the pouch of skin in which the testicles are located; note any swelling, reddening, or scabbing of the scrotum. In the female dog, the external opening of the genital tract is called the vulva. Normally, there is no discharge from the vulva. Reddening of the vulva, or of the skin in the area, and a discharge from the vulva should be reported to the veterinarian.

(i) *Anal region*. The last portion of the dog's digestive tract is called the rectum, and the opening from the rectum to the outside of the

body is called the anus. On either side of the rectum near the anus is a small gland known as the anal gland and these specialized glands, which secrete a brownish, foul-smelling substance, have a sac called the anal sac. Sometimes, the opening of the sac gets clogged and becomes swollen and painful. Look for any swelling and reddening of the skin in the area or of the anus itself. When the anal glands need to be emptied or are infected, the dog may turn to bite at the area or may slide along the ground while in a sitting position. Report any of these symptoms to the veterinarian.

(j) *Attitude*. The dog's attitude is one of the best indications of its general state of health. Through close association with and knowledge of his dog, a handler can readily detect a change of attitude. If the dog tires easily or begins to show undue nervousness, loss of vitality and energy, an increased desire for sleep, or inattention while on post or in training, report this immediately.

(k) *Body functions*. This refers to the natural functions which are continuously carried on by the body: breathing, digestion, formation of waste products, and the like. Disturbances in these natural functions are accompanied by many symptoms. Alertness in detecting them is important. Notice any increase or decrease in appetite or thirst or any change in the manner of breathing, such as an unusual amount of panting. Vomiting may occur, or there may be a change in the nature of the intestinal contents as evidenced by a very soft or watery feces. Blood may be seen in the vomitus or feces. Whenever possible, watch the dog when it starts urinating or having a bowel movement. By doing so, you may be able to detect blood in the urine or to detect that the dog is having difficulty with the passage of urine or feces. If blood is present in the urine, notice whether it is passed at the beginning or the end of urination or whether it is distributed throughout the entire passage of urine. If blood is present in the feces, note its character; e.g., is it bright red or dark and tarry, and the amount seen. Occasionally, entire specimens of internal parasites may be noted in the feces. These should be collected in containers with tight fitting lids and promptly submitted to the veterinary officer. Pay attention to the frequency of urination and bowel movements and report increases or decreases in the frequency of either.

(l) *Temperature*. A dog's body temperature can readily be determined and is one of the best indications of the animal's state of health. Normally, the rectal temperature is between 101° and 102° F. Variations from this range frequently indicate an illness of some type; however, some variation in temperature may not be ab-

normal—as, for example, a temperature rise following exercise or agitation. Always consult the veterinarian when variations from the normal are detected. A dog's temperature is always taken rectally, and the thermometer is left in the rectum from 2 to 3 minutes before the reading is taken. Hold on to the thermometer to prevent it from completely entering the dog's rectum. Lubrication of the thermometer with soap or mineral oil greatly increases the ease of its insertion into the rectum. As a safety precaution, muzzle the dog before taking its temperature.

(m) *Kennel and run.* In routine inspections always include a check of the run and inside of the kennel. This check may reveal evidence of vomiting, abnormal feces, or blood from a wound that might otherwise go unnoticed.

57. Administering Medication

During the course of any treatment given a dog, the veterinary officer requires the handler's assistance. The handler has to restrain the dog and may have to administer medication. In the following discussion, various methods are described for giving medicine by mouth. The procedures described are those for a right-handed person; a left-handed person can use the same procedures by reversing positions.

a. *Capsules or Tablets.* The veterinary officer may ask the handler to administer medicine in the form of capsules or tablets. He may advise the handler to give these in food, or it may be necessary for the handler to place the capsules or tablets in his dog's mouth so the dog can swallow them. The recommended procedure for giving capsules or tablets is shown in figure 21. In step 1, the handler places the fingers of his left hand over the muzzle and inserts his left thumb under the lip and between the dog's upper and lower teeth directly behind the upper right canine tooth. Use caution in doing this, and do not force the dog's lip against its teeth for this causes undue pain and increases the dog's resistance to treatment. In step 2, the handler applies pressure to the roof of the dog's mouth by the second and third fingers of the left hand. The handler then places the capsule or tablet into the dog's throat with his right hand. Place the medicine in the throat to the extreme rear of the tongue to prevent the dog from spitting it out, and withdraw the right hand. Steps 3 and 4 show how the dog's mouth is held shut and the handler massages the dog's throat to ease the pill or capsule down. The entire procedure must be done as smoothly and quickly as possible, for a fumbling or delayed approach increases the dog's apprehension and resentment.

b. *Liquid Medication.*

(1) The administration of liquid medicine is best done with the assistance of another person. The leather muzzle should be in place to provide added safety for the assistant; however, the muzzle was not used in figure 22 because it would obstruct the view of the proper procedure to follow in administering the liquid.

(2) With his left hand, the handler holds the upper and lower jaws together, as shown in step 1. With his right hand, the assistant pulls the dog's lip out away from the teeth, as shown in step 2. As this is done, the dog's nose is pointed upward, and a natural pouch is formed by the lip. The assistant now pours the liquid into this pouch, as illustrated in step 3.

(3) Use caution in giving liquid medicine by mouth. Elevate the head only to an angle just above the horizontal; if the head is raised any higher, the dog has difficulty in swallowing. Give the liquid slowly, thereby giving the dog adequate time for swallowing. If given too rapidly, the liquid may get into the dog's trachea, nose, or lungs, thus causing resentment and possible damage. Use particular caution in giving oily liquids or liquids that have a bland taste. If any signs of distress appear, such as coughing or struggling, allow the dog to rest before proceeding further.

58. First Aid

The first part of this chapter stressed the importance of reporting signs and symptoms of injury and disease to the veterinary officer as soon as possible. However, there are times when the handler must take emergency measures to protect the health of his dog. First aid is used in an emergency situation to save life, to prevent further injury, and to reduce pain. The handler must understand how and when first aid is used so that he may act in the best interests of his dog. In all emergency situations, notify the veterinarian as soon as possible, and seek and use the assistance of anyone who may be available.

a. *Restraint.* When a dog has been injured or is suffering from any condition in which it experiences acute pain or distress, the handler's urgent action is required. In this case, the dog may respond to its handler's attention in an unpredictable manner. The dog may struggle violently and even attempt to bite. These are natural and normal reactions for a dog under such circumstances, but these reactions may result in further injury to the dog, to the handler, or to anyone assisting the handler.

(1) It is important that the handler properly control and restrain his dog before attempt-



Figure 21. Administering capsule or tablet.

ing to administer first aid in any emergency situation. He should approach the distressed animal in the correct manner. Because of his close

relationship to his dog, he should be able to approach the dog with confidence; the dog knows and trusts its handler. As the handler confid-

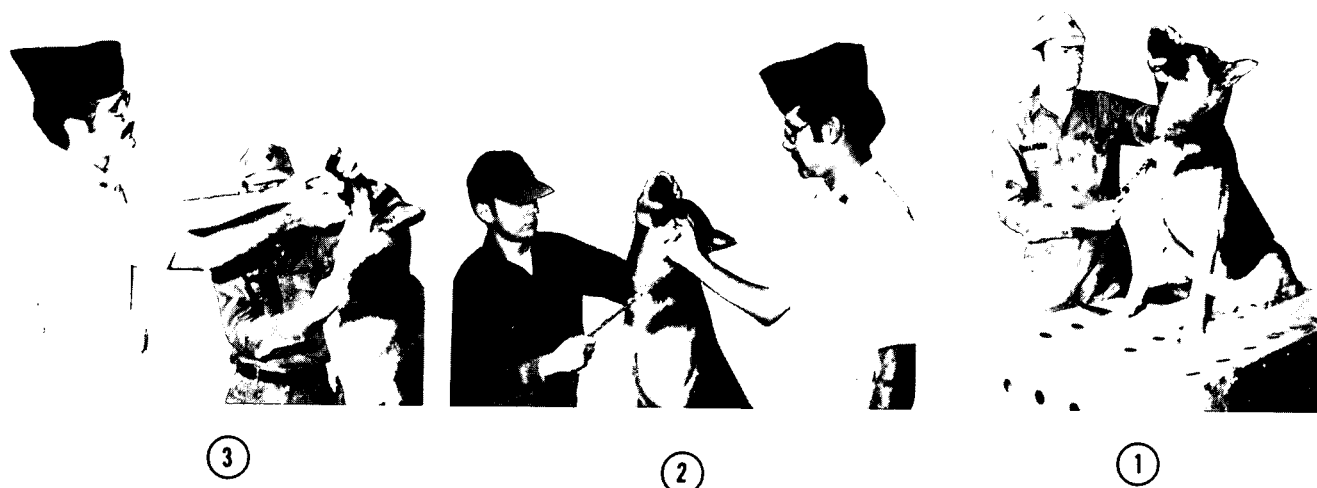


Figure 22. Administering liquid preparation.

ently approaches, he should speak in a soothing and calm voice. In this way, he can overcome the dog's fear or apprehension.

(2) Whether or not to apply a muzzle to the dog depends on the nature of the emergency situation. If the animal is unconscious, a leather muzzle must not be applied. If there is difficulty in breathing or if there are severe wounds about the head, it is not wise to use a muzzle. In most cases, however, a muzzle should be used to protect the handler and anyone helping him.

(3) There are several types of muzzles which may be used, and the regular leather basket muzzle is the best of these. This is the most comfortable muzzle; it also permits freer breathing. It will cause the least alarm and apprehension since the dog is already familiar with it. *The leather basket muzzle should be used whenever possible in an emergency situation.* Remember, however, that the dog can still inflict a wound with such a muzzle on, so exercise caution.

(4) Another type of muzzle which can be used is called the hasty muzzle. As figure 23 shows, the actual application of this muzzle is a simple matter. First, tighten the choke chain on the dog's neck by pulling the leash tightly with the right hand. Place the left hand, palm up, under the choke chain on the dog's neck; grasp the leash tightly as it passes through the palm of the left hand, as shown in step 1. Then wrap the leash once around the dog's neck and bring it down the left side of the dog's head, as shown in step 2. Finally, wrap the leash twice around the dog's muzzle (fig 20) and grasp it tightly with the left hand, as shown in step 3. This type

muzzle may be used when the leather muzzle is not available or when it is believed that the leather muzzle would not provide adequate safety.

(5) Do *not* use the hasty muzzle when the dog is having difficulty in breathing or when there is an indication that it may vomit; do not leave it on for long periods of time in hot weather. Still another type of muzzle which can be used is a makeshift muzzle constructed from a necktie, bootlace, piece of gauze bandage, or some other article. The easiest and most effective means of applying a makeshift muzzle is to place the center of a gauze strip under the dog's lower jaw and bring the ends up to tie a single knot about halfway between the dog's nose and eyes, as shown in step 1 of figure 24. Bring the loose ends down one on each side of the mouth and cross them under the lower jaw, as shown in step 2. Bring the loose ends up behind the ears, one on each side of the neck, and tie them in a bowknot at the back of the head, as shown in step 3. This type of muzzle has the same uses and the same limitations as the leash muzzle. Observe the dog closely and if it shows any difficulty in breathing or any indications that it may vomit, quickly remove the muzzle.

b. *Wounds.* A frequent emergency that arises with military dogs is the foot or leg wound in which there is active bleeding. In all bleeding wounds, the flow of blood (hemorrhage) must be controlled; this is the first thing to be done.

(1) The quickest way to control bleeding of the foot or leg is to grasp the leg above the wound with the hand, as shown in figure 25. Apply just enough pressure to control the bleed-



Figure 23. Applying hasty muzzle.

ing. Replace the hand pressure with a tourniquet or pressure bandage as soon as possible. A tourniquet can be improvised from a number of articles, such as a leash, belt, necktie, bootlace, or a piece of gauze bandage. Figure 26 shows a tourniquet that has been made from a leash. A stick or similar object is used to apply pressure.

(2) Remember that the tourniquet will interfere with the blood supply to the part of the leg below the tourniquet; this can seriously damage the leg. Therefore, apply a tourniquet 3 or 4 inches above the wound with just enough pressure to control the bleeding. In case of a foot pad wound, a pressure bandage works better than a tourniquet.

(3) Apply a pressure bandage as soon as possible to a leg or foot wound in which bleeding is a problem. Strips of cloth, gauze, bandaging material, and adhesive tape are useful in the construction of such a bandage. Before applying these wrapping materials, place a clean piece of cloth or gauze immediately over the wound. Do not wrap the bandage tight enough to cut off circulation. It should be just tight enough to control the bleeding. Once the pressure bandage is securely in place, remove the tourniquet. *Never* apply a bandage over a tourniquet because the tourniquet may be forgotten and left on too long. Remember, tourniquets are temporary devices and are to be used for the shortest possible

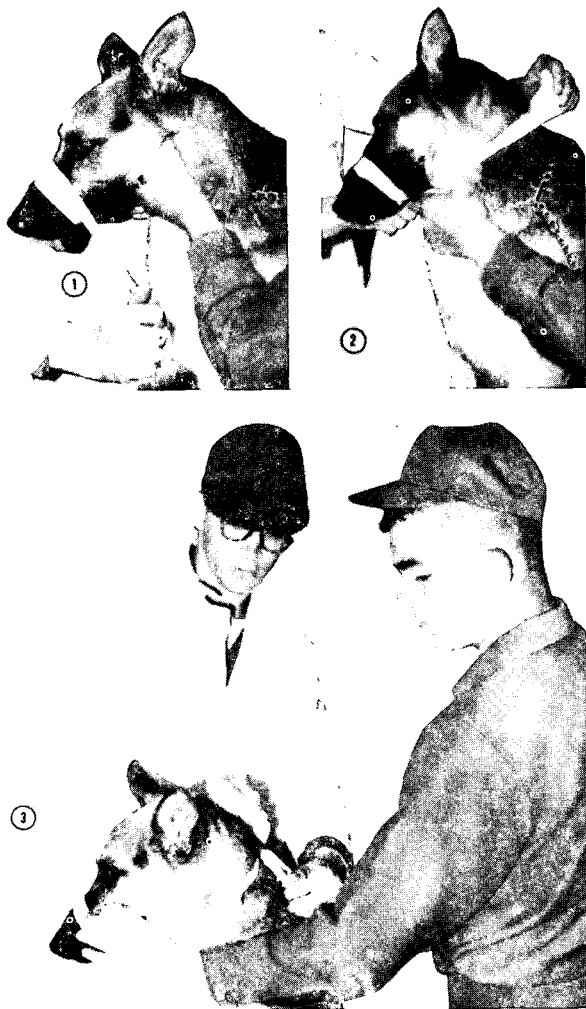


Figure 24. Applying gauze muzzle.

periods of time. Seek veterinary service as soon as possible.

(4) If bleeding occurs from a wound in an area where it is impossible to use a tourniquet, other means of controlling the hemorrhage must be taken. It may be possible to close the wound with your fingers, thus stopping the flow of blood. You may be able to stop the bleeding by making and applying a compress. To do this, press a Carlisle-type of sterile dressing or a handkerchief over the wound and, if possible, secure the compress with a bandage. As in all cases of bleeding, do what you can to control it and then send or call for help.

(5) Normally, the treatment of wounds is left to the veterinarian. Where necessary, however, certain things can be done in the preliminary treatment of skin wounds in which the ur-

gent arrest of bleeding is not a problem. Trim the hair from the wound and wound edges, being careful that no hair falls into the wound. A moist, sterile gauze pad placed gently over the wound will prevent this. Flush the wound out thoroughly with water, and place a piece of clean, sterile gauze bandage over it for protection against further contamination.

c. Injuries. As described here, an injury occurs when the bones or internal organs of a dog have been damaged as a result of a blow, a fall, a gunshot or shrapnel wound, or from some other cause.

(1) Broken bones or fractures have not occurred with great frequency among military dogs; however, injuries of this type do happen occasionally. Such injuries may occur when dogs are loaded or unloaded from trucks, or they may occur during training exercises at the confidence course. Most fractures that occur are in one or more of a dog's limbs. Regardless of how they occur, fractures are serious injuries.

(2) If you know or suspect that a fracture has occurred, immediately restrain the animal properly so as to prevent possible injury to yourself. Make every effort to quiet the animal to minimize the possibility of further injury to the fracture site. Send for help; in the meantime keep the dog quiet and warm. The dog must be kept warm because some degree of shock usually accompanies a serious fracture. Whenever possible, keep the dog at the place of injury until the veterinarian arrives. If this is not practical because of weather conditions or the time factor, move the dog.

(3) Before moving a dog with a fractured leg, it is advisable to apply a splint to the leg whenever possible. The handler cannot splint those leg fractures that occur high on the limb. Splinting consists of fastening the leg to a firm object such as a stick or board by means of adhesive tape, gauze bandage, strips of cloth, the leash or other suitable material. The splint is designed to immobilize the leg at the fracture site and to prevent further injury. Apply the splint firmly but not so tightly that blood circulation in the leg is impaired. If the ends of the broken bone are protruding through the skin, cover the area with a clean, sterile gauze bandage before applying the splint.

(4) Splinting must be done before attempting to transport the dog. A litter can be made from available materials. Care must be exercised to prevent the dog from jumping off the litter and sustaining further injury.

(5) *Do not* attempt to set the fracture. This



Figure 25. Control bleeding with hand on pressure point.

causes the dog to suffer needlessly and might result in greater damage at the fracture site. This is a job that must be done by a veterinarian.

(6) Injury to internal organs of the body may be accompanied by internal bleeding and shock, in which case paleness of the membranes of the dog's mouth and eyes, or difficulty in breathing, may be apparent. Sometimes, the inner surface of the lips feels cold. If you suspect that your dog may be suffering from internal injuries, keep it warm and as quiet as possible. Seek assistance immediately; and if it is necessary to move the animal, use a litter to carefully transport the dog.

(7) It is not desirable to overwarm an animal in shock. It is better that it be slightly cool than too warm. The prevention of heat loss from under the dog is equally as important as covering. Just enough covering to prevent excess loss of body heat is needed.

(8) Do not offer water to an injured dog. Its tongue may be moistened, but the drinking of water is prohibited when internal injuries are suspected.

d. Snakebites. In the event a dog is bitten by a poisonous snake, and after the snake is killed and saved for identification, try to keep the dog quiet and calm. Send for help immediately. The dog must be transported to the treatment facility in a vehicle or carried in the handler's arms. Poison moves more rapidly through the bloodstream when panic or exertion occurs; therefore, it is emphasized that the dog be kept as quiet as possible. Bites occur on the face or neck of the dog; in these cases, immediately remove the choke chain and be prepared to loosen or remove the collar (and/or muzzle). Swelling occurs rapidly after a snakebite, and these items of equipment may interfere with breathing. It is extremely important that the veterinarian be notified as quickly as possible. When possible, bring the dead snake with the dog to the veterinarian. This is an invaluable aid to the veterinarian in determining what course of treatment to start.

e. Foreign Objects in the Mouth. A dog may occasionally get a stick or some other foreign object lodged in its mouth or throat. When this occurs, the dog may cough and gag, have difficulty



Figure 26. Leash tourniquet.

in swallowing, paw at the mouth, and drool. Should these symptoms appear, be very cautious because an animal with rabies may show similar symptoms. If the dog is obviously having great difficulty in breathing and you can see the foreign object, attempt to remove it. In all cases, whether the foreign object has been removed or not, contact the veterinarian immediately.

f. Poisoning. The handler can usually prevent his dog from becoming poisoned. In the approach to all types of diseases and injuries, prevention is the desired goal. With the dog under careful control, it is not a great problem to prevent it from eating anything except its normal ration. If food material other than that in its ration is discovered in a place where the dog can find it, it must be regarded with suspicion, and the handler should not permit his dog to eat it. Such a dis-

covery might suggest the possibility of an attempt by an intruder to perform some act of sabotage. A possible source of poisoning for dogs is rat poison. There are several types of rat poison, and many of them are harmful to dogs. Such agents are used in the kennel area *only* by the official insect and rodent control agency on the post and with the approval of the post veterinarian. The signs of poisoning vary with the poison concerned and may be similar to those of many disease conditions. Unless you are certain that your dog has eaten a poisonous substance, it is not wise to treat it for poisoning. If, in spite of all precautions, the dog has eaten poison, immediate action is necessary. Request assistance at once. If a veterinarian is not immediately available, give the dog something to cause vomiting; a salt solution can safely be used for this purpose. Such a solution

can be prepared by adding a tablespoonful of salt to a glass of water. Give the salt solution by mouth, in the same manner that liquid medicine is administered, until vomiting occurs. Then keep the dog quiet and warm until the veterinarian arrives.

g. Heat Stroke. Heat stroke represents a very serious medical emergency in which immediate action by the handler may be necessary to save the animal's life. Heat stroke results when a dog is unable to eliminate its body heat rapidly enough. In the summertime, or in hot climates, overheating is seen occasionally in working dogs; overheating may even occur at night. In hot weather, a dog may become overheated during training and when it is being transported. Symptoms of heat stroke may include weakness, unsteady gait, vomiting, difficult or labored breathing, convulsions, and collapse; there is a very high body temperature of 106°—107° or more. First aid treatment consists of carrying the animal as rapidly as possible to the nearest shade and quickly lowering the body heat of the ani-

mal. Body heat can be lowered by pouring water from a canteen on the dog's head, body, and stomach, and fanning this same area with a shirt or cap. If a stream or body of water is available, immerse the animal; be sure that the dog's head is above the water at all times so that water cannot get into the lungs. If ice is available, massage it over the body and legs. Ice packs may be placed on the inside of the forelegs near the body or on the inside of the dog's thighs. Large blood vessels are close to the surface in these areas and body temperatures can be rapidly lowered by this means. If the animal must be moved more than a few yards to the shade or to the treatment facility, hand carry or transport it in a vehicle. Walking or running it only serves to increase the overheating problem. To prevent overheating, keep training and vigorous exercise to a minimum in very hot weather; allow frequent rest periods and provide small amounts of drinking water at frequent intervals. Also, adequate ventilation is necessary when a dog is being transported.

Section III. FEEDING

59. Essential Ration Components

To keep a dog in a state of good health a proper diet is necessary; such a diet must satisfy the energy requirements of the dog, and it must provide all of the essential components of a balanced ration. In this section, consideration is given to what a good diet for the dog must contain and also what, when, and how much to feed. For more detailed information concerning nutrition, refer to TM 8-450.

a. The dog's diet requires basically the same essential components as does the handler's. It must contain sufficient quantities of protein, carbohydrates, fats, vitamins, and minerals. A dog also requires a certain amount of water each day.

b. Proteins are sometimes called tissue builders; this means that they are primarily involved in the growth and structure of the tissues of the body (muscle, tendons). Fats and carbohydrates are more commonly referred to as energy producers; that is, they provide the necessary fuel so that the body is able to work. Vitamins (A, B1, D) and minerals (calcium, iron, phosphorus) serve a wide variety of uses in the dog's body. Calcium, phosphorus and vitamin D, for example, are involved in bone structure and growth; vitamin A plays an important role in vision; iron is an important component of blood.

c. Some of the dog foods which are high in

proteins are horse meat, beef scraps, liver meal, fish meal, milk and eggs. Carbohydrates are found in large amounts in sugars, starches and cellulose which are contained in such foods as corn, potatoes, oats, barley, rice, wheat, and candy. Butter, lard, and vegetable oils are examples of foods which are high in fat content. Vitamins and minerals are found in a wide variety of foods. For example, milk and bone meal are high in calcium content, cod liver oil in vitamin D and vitamin A, meat and oatmeal in vitamin B1.

d. Water is a component of the food which the handler feeds his dog. But there is not enough water in the food to supply all of the animal's needs; therefore, a continuous supply of fresh, clean water in adequate quantities must always be available to the dog.

60. What to Feed

A high quality commercially prepared dog food should be used to insure that the dog is getting the required amounts of protein, carbohydrates, fats, vitamins, and minerals. Compared to the old feeding method of using homemade mixtures of meats and vegetables, the use of commercially prepared dog food conserves time, manpower, material, and storage space. Most important, the commercial dog food made to guaranteed analysis in accordance with Army standards insures that the dog is receiving a scientifically balanced, nu-

tritionally adequate diet. There are several types of ration being used for military dogs—the garrison ration, field ration, and maximum stress diet. The garrison ration may consist of a commercially prepared dry dog food and horse-meat. The field ration consists of one of several types of commercially prepared soft-moist dog foods. The maximum stress diet is high in energy content. Various combinations of the above rations may be used in training of specialized dogs. The veterinary officer may have specific uses for specially prepared canned foods in the feeding of dogs in certain locations or for dogs with certain types of illnesses. Special types of diets may be procured and fed to individual animals when the veterinarian indicates that other than the standard diet is required. Should the necessity arise to establish an emergency ration, the dog may be fed such foods as meats, cooked vegetables, dry or cooked cereals and milk. It is best to avoid highly seasoned foods, and bones should never be given to a dog without the approval of the veterinary officer. Under emergency conditions, where an approved dog food is not available, the dog should receive its food from the same source as the handler (with veterinary approval); this insures that it is the safest and best quality obtainable under the circumstances.

61. How Much to Feed

a. Once a good commercial dog food has been procured, the problem of how much to feed the dog must be considered. This problem is largely one of determining the energy requirements of a dog. A calorie is a unit of heat, and is the term used to express the fuel or energy value of food. A dog must obtain a certain amount of energy from its food each day; therefore each dog has certain caloric requirements.

b. It has been determined that the adult military dog requires about 35 to 50 calories daily per pound of body weight for sustenance. At rest, the adult military dog would require daily about 35 calories per pound of body weight. To obtain caloric balance it should eat 1 pound of dry-type dog food per 40 pounds of body weight; or 1 pound of soft-moist dog food per 34 pounds of body weight; or 1 pound of canned dog food per 14 pounds of body weight; or 1 pound of high-calorie diet per 64 pounds of body weight. Working dogs would require 50 calories per pound of body weight which would be met by the following amounts of food daily: dry-type, 1 pound per 27 pounds of body weight; soft-moist, 1 pound per 24 pounds of body weight; canned food, 1 pound per 10 pounds of body weight; and high-calorie diet, 1 pound per 45 pounds of

body weight. These figures are given in table 1 (below).

c. The feeding of a military dog, however, is not quite as simple as it may appear; there is more involved than mere computation of figures. Not all dogs of the same body weight require exactly the same amount of food.

d. Several factors are responsible for this. One of these is the type of climate in which a dog is living. The calorie and food requirements for dogs working in hot climates are less than for cold climates. Another factor is the temperament of the dog. If the dog is high strung and nervous, and if it constantly runs and paces in the kennel area, then it has a greater calorie requirement than a more placid dog. Another factor involves the conditions under which the dog must work. If it is working long hours over hilly terrain, its caloric requirements will be greater. Food utilization is also a factor. Some dogs can digest and utilize their food better than others and hence can eat less to get the same amount of available energy.

e. Finally, there is the health factor; if a dog is not in good health, it might require more or less calories than when healthy, depending on the type of illness.

f. The existence of these variable factors leads to the conclusion that, although the estimated average calorie and food requirements for military dogs have been established, feeding is still an individual matter. Each dog should receive the amount of food needed to maintain proper weight and physical condition. The veterinarian assists handlers with individual feeding methods.

Table 1. Estimated Quantities of Different Rations to Feed Military Dogs at Rest and at Work

Type of ration	At rest	At work
Dry	1-lb/40 lbs	1-lb/27 lbs
Soft-moist	1-lb/34 lbs	1-lb/24 lbs
Canned	1-lb/14 lbs	1-lb/10 lbs
High-calorie	1-lb/64 lbs	1-lb/45 lbs

62. How and When to Feed

a. There are two feeding methods presently used. The pan feeding method is the basic method, and involves feeding the dog once a day from the feed pan. The food is allowed to remain in the kennel for a period of time, usually 1/2 hour. It is then removed, the remaining food discarded, and the pan cleaned. Dry dog food may be fed as is or mixed with water. The food-reward method involves variations of the basic method with incorporation of a food reward technique used in training of specialized types of military dogs.

b. Veterinary personnel determine how much food each dog receives daily by observation of the dog's average food intake requirements and by consideration of the variable factors which affect these requirements. With the pan-feeding method, when to feed is important. It depends largely on the work schedule of the dog. Avoid feeding a dog just before or just after strenuous

exercise. Violent exercise after a heavy meal predisposes a dog to gastric torsion (twisting of the stomach or "flip-flop stomach"), bloat, or some other gastrointestinal illness. A dog should not be fed just after it has come in from duty or from a training period because this interferes with digestion.

PART THREE
LOGISTICAL SUPPORT AND ADMINISTRATION
CHAPTER 8
KENNEL AND TRAINING AREA

Section I. SELECTION OF SITES

63. General

Before military dogs are assigned to using organizations, suitable facilities for kenneling them must be provided. Various factors must be taken into consideration before the construction of such facilities. Factors such as the health and comfort of dogs are considered in the construction of kennels and runs, as well as certain management and safety factors.

64. Kennel

Haphazard placement of kennel facilities for military dogs must be avoided. The following established standards must be observed when selecting a satisfactory location for kennel facilities: adequate drainage, minimal noise, availability of an approved water source, and access to the proper firefighting equipment.

a. Drainage. If possible, kennels and runs are constructed so that floors slope toward drains. This provides adequate drainage and eliminates the possibility of any water standing in the area. The drainage system is designed so that each kennel run is drained independently to prevent contamination (app E).

b. Noise. The military dog facility is located, if possible, in an area where there are few distractions to the dogs and where they are not a nuisance to personnel. Anything which might be harmful to their senses must be avoided. Military dogs must get enough rest to be alert and efficient while on duty. Therefore, kennels should be as isolated as possible from traveled roads, housing areas, playgrounds, and congested working areas to insure a minimum of noise and distraction. A dog which is alerted repeatedly by the sound of industrial activity or children playing cannot

get the required amount of rest. Built-up areas on the post should be at least 150 to 200 yards from the kennel facilities; this is usually far enough away to prevent most distracting noises from adversely affecting dogs. To further reduce noise and distractions, kennels should be located so that natural barriers, such as hills, trees, and large shrubs intervene between built-up areas and the kennel facilities. When there are no natural barriers in the area it may be necessary to construct artificial barriers.

c. Water Supply. Water has many uses at a kennel site. Large quantities are needed for cleaning purposes. It is also used to mix dog food and as drinking water. An adequate water supply must also be available to provide fire protection. The water supply at the kennel site must come from a source which has been approved for human consumption. Impure water can be a source of disease for dogs as well as their handlers.

d. Fire Protection. Water-type fire extinguishers are generally used in the kennel area. At least one such fire extinguisher must be provided for each 2,500 square feet of floor space in the kennel and support buildings. Local surroundings, however, may cause the type and number of fire extinguishers to vary. Because of this, local installation fire department officials are consulted to establish local requirements. Accessibility to firefighting vehicles is considered in the determination of a kennel location.

e. Lighting. The kennel area must be well lighted to prevent accidents to dogs and handlers when they are going to and from the kennels at night. Lights of sufficient wattage can be installed on standards at alternate kennels and spaced on opposite sides of service aisles (app E).

f. Run Shading. Grass matting, salvage tenting, or tarpaulin materials stretched over fences around the kennel runs and supported by cross wires are economical ways of providing adequate shade during hot weather. Shade material should be secured to the support wiring to prevent it from blowing away.

65. Training Area

A training area is necessary to conduct all phases of obedience training. When determining the requirements of a training area, various factors must be considered if training is to be effective.

a. Surface. The area used for obedience training must be free of anything which would be harmful to the handler and his dog. This includes such items as broken glass, sandburs, and sharp rocks. The surface of the terrain should

be as level as possible, and all holes filled to prevent an accident or injury.

b. Availability. It is desirable that the training area be located within easy walking distance from the kennel area. This eliminates transportation problems and saves time.

c. Noise. The same requirements apply to the training area as apply to the kennel area. It should be at least 150 to 200 yards from any of the built-up areas already described. This minimizes distractions.

d. Size. The size of the area used to conduct field training depends largely upon the number of handlers that will be training their dogs at a given time. Ideally, terrain used for military purposes should offer such natural obstacles as streams, woods, brush, hills, and plains.

Section II. CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

66. Kennel

The purpose of any kennel is to provide protection from the elements and a healthy, restful environment for the dog. The major areas of concern are shade, heat when necessary, ventilation, drainage, ease of cleaning, separation of dogs, and safety. One should strive to prevent dogs from disturbing one another while in their kennels. Both permanent and temporary construction should be considered.

a. Permanent. These kennels should include properly sloping concrete floors, concrete and wire dividers, wire gates, wire ceilings, and ventilated metal roofs. They should have kitchen facilities, treatment areas, and be easily adapted to weather changes (cold, monsoons, heat, etc.). One such plan is shown in appendix E. Permanent kennels may also be constructed out of cement blocks, with metal being used for the roofs. In such kennels, the stake out chains are used to tether the dogs. Prior to construction of permanent kennels, commanders should consult veterinary and engineer personnel.

b. Temporary. These temporary kennels may be constructed using dog shipping crates with stake out chains (1, fig 27). Shade and protection from the elements may be achieved with ponchos, tarps, or parachute canopies over the crates. Crates may be set on stakes to raise them off the ground to allow for drainage and ventilation. A field expedient, combat type, temporary kennel may be constructed using a 4 foot x 4 foot wooden pallet for a floor, wooden ammunition boxes filled with sand for three sides, and a half culvert (sand-bagged) for the roof, 2, figure 27. Tempor-

ary kennels may also be constructed using empty 55-gallon drums set on cement blocks. One end of the drum must be cut out and the edges smoothed to prevent injury. The floor of the drum should be covered with straw or a blanket.

c. Fencing. The kennels, runs, and support buildings will be surrounded by a compound fence. This fence is constructed of 7- to 9-gauge, 2-inch maximum, chain link fencing and is 8 feet high. Fence posts are set in concrete with the inside diameter open to the ground (soil) below the concrete and capped on top. Manufacturer's standard designs may be used.

d. Off Limits Signs. These signs are posted in sufficient numbers on all sides of the kennel area to act as a deterrent to unauthorized personnel who might otherwise enter the area. These signs usually measure 30 inches by 40 inches and are lettered as shown in figure 28, and should be placed so they may be seen at least 50 yards before approaching the restricted area. When military dogs are located in foreign countries, the signs are also lettered in the language of the host country. Construction specifications and standards are contained in AR 385-30.

e. Kennel Maintenance. Proper maintenance of the dog's kennel and run makes the upkeep easy and inexpensive; this is done by observing and correcting minor discrepancies before they become major problems. The handler must inspect his dog's kennel daily; loose or worn hinges on the door are repaired or replaced; the sides of the kennel are inspected, both inside and out. Any discrepancy noted during these daily inspections of the dog's living area, that cannot be

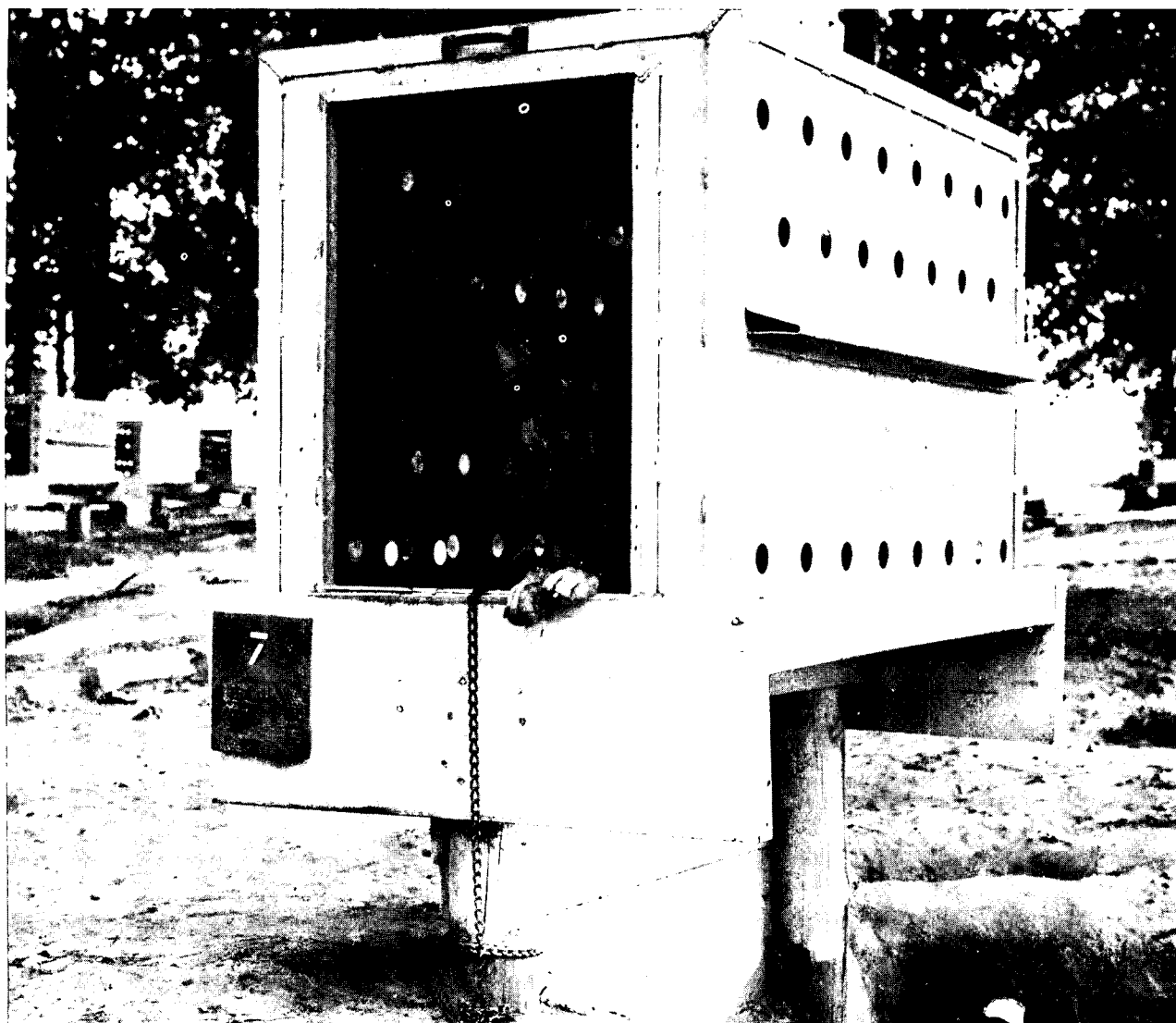


Figure 27. Field expedient shelter.

readily corrected, is reported immediately to the proper authority. In this way, the dog's kennel is kept in good condition, and the dog may be saved from unnecessary injury.

67. Training Areas: Types of Training

This area includes the confidence course, the obedience training area, and the field training area. The maintenance of these areas must be of such quality as to provide a suitable training environment. A good confidence course, which can be constructed of salvage materials, has many different types of obstacles; hurdles of different heights, not to exceed 3 feet; scaling walls of varying heights, not to exceed 6 feet; ditches or water barriers for the dog to jump over; tunnels for crawling; and logs or ladders for teaching sure-footedness. The tops of all hurdles are padded so

that the dog cannot injure itself while running the course. Both the 5- and 6-foot scaling walls must be properly constructed with horizontal cross strips and rubber matting on the front side to provide for better footing; the front side must be sloped 10° to 24° in the direction of the dog's jump; and a safety platform must be built on the backside 2 feet below the top of each wall. The purpose of the platform is to break the dog's jump. The confidence course must be kept in a good state of repair. It must be inspected periodically to insure that it is being properly maintained to provide the safest and most effective training environment possible. It is essential that the obedience and field training areas be properly maintained. All objects that might be harmful to the handler or his dog are cleared from the area. A periodic inspection of these areas insures that they are being properly policed.

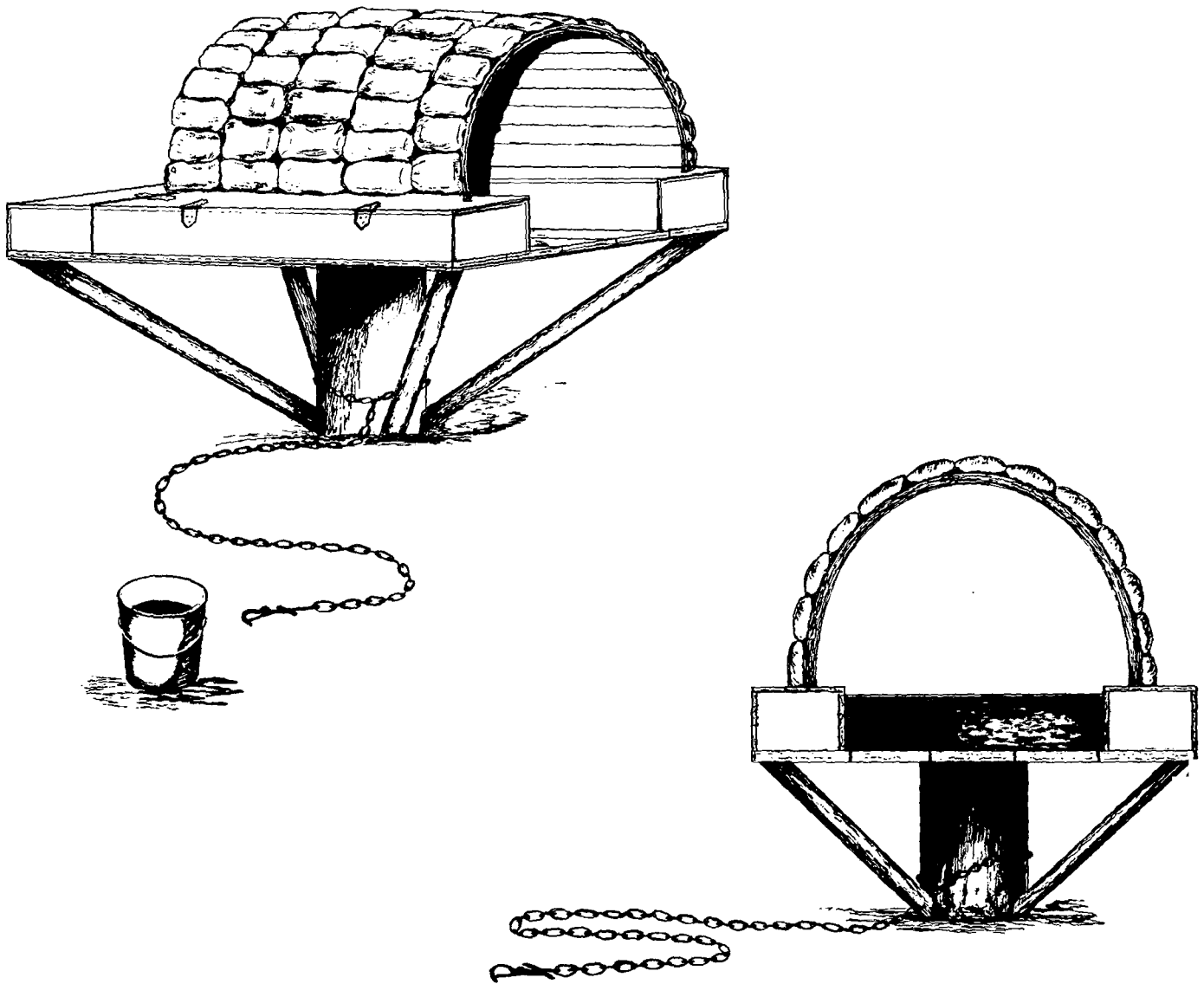


Figure 27—Continued.



Figure 28. Off limits sign.

Section III. EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

68. Equipment

The kennel noncommissioned officer in charge must make sure that supplies are readily available when needed. He should maintain a working stock of equipment and take a periodic inventory to determine what supplies are needed.

69. Rations

All dog food must originate in clean, sanitary plants and must be manufactured, packaged,

stored, and transported in conformance with good commercial practices as determined by the USA Veterinary Service.

70. Forms

A variety of forms are needed to establish adequate administrative and medical records. After determining the number of forms needed, a request is submitted to the local post publications office.

CHAPTER 9

MAINTENANCE OF MILITARY DOG RECORDS: ADMINISTRATIVE AND MEDICAL

71. General

All individual records of the dog, both administrative and medical are contained within the medical folder, DD Form 722 (Health Record). An exception to this may be the large radiographs, maintained by the veterinary officer responsible for the dog's care. Permanent records for each military dog are initiated by the procuring agency and returned to the Air Force upon the death of the dog, or its release from service. Appropriate DD, DA, and AF Forms are used.

72. Administrative Records

These records are maintained by nonmedical military dog personnel and consist of AF Form 323 (Sentry Dog Record, fig 29), the animal's picture, and DD Form 1743 (Death Certificate of Military Dog, fig 30) after its completion by a veterinary officer.

73. AF Form 323, Sentry Dog Record

When a dog is procured, the Contracting Officer of Animal Procurement prepares sections 1 and 2

NAME OF DOG Commodore		TATTOO 32X2		SEX Male	AGE 2YRS
I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND RECORD					
DATE WHELPED 8 6 '68	COLOR BLK TAN	HEIGHT 23"	WEIGHT 65 LBS	BREED GS	DATE ACQUIRED 8 '6 70
ACQUIRED FROM John Doe			ADDRESS 803 Volleybrook Rd, Columbus, Ga. 31907		
PURCHASE ORDER NUMBER N A		PRICE \$150.00		DATE ARRIVED 6 Aug 1970	
II. ACCEPTABILITY (A) (Check accepted or rejected)					
PHYSICAL		MEDICAL		TEMPERAMENT	
X	ACCEPTED	DATE	X	ACCEPTED	DATE
	REJECTED	6 Aug 70		REJECTED	6 Aug 1970
REASON		REASON		REASON Scout	
TYPED NAME AND GRADE OF EXAMINING VETERINARIAN PAUL F. McWILLIAMS CPT, VC.				SIGNATURE <i>Paul F. McWilliams</i>	
REMARKS					
III. FINAL SEPARATION FROM SERVICE					
DATE		CAUSE			

AF Form 323
JAN 64

SENTRY DOG RECORD

Front

Figure 29. Dog record (AF Form 323).

HANDLER	GRADE	SERVICE NUMBER	DATE ASSIGNED	ORGANIZATION AND INSTALLATION
JUERS JAMES A	E-3	556-604689	9 AUG 70	26 th IPSD FT. BENNING GA.

Back

Figure 29.—Continued.

of this form. The sample in figure 29 shows that section 1 on the front side of the form contains information concerning the dog's age, description, date of purchase, original owner, purchase order number, and the price paid for the animal. It also shows the date on which the dog arrived at the accepting installation. Section 2 provides information pertaining to the dog's acceptability for military use. Veterinary and training personnel at the procurement center complete this section at the time of the initial evaluation of the animal. Section 3 of the form is completed upon final separation of the dog from service. As shown in the illustration, the original entry on the reverse side of the form is made when the animal is first assigned to a handler. If for any reason the original handler is replaced by another, the required information concerning the new handler is entered at the time of assignment.

74. DD Form 1743 (Death Certificate of Military Dogs)

Figure 30 is both an administrative and medical

form; it is completed by a veterinary officer after the death of the dog. It is used to close out the accountability for a dog and to record the cause of death. The form is prepared in at least 3 copies, two going to the unit commander to be used as a supporting document for dropping the dog from the unit property book, and the original being placed in the dog's permanent record. Each copy must be signed by the veterinarian.

75. Medical Records

Medical records make up the majority of the dog's permanent file. All information concerning the dog's medical background and treatment must be entered on the appropriate form in accordance with AR 40-905, 40-655, 735-11, 190-12 and 700-81. Only veterinary personnel are authorized to make entries on the medical records. For more detailed information concerning filing of the Medical Record, DD Form 722, in the proper chronological order, refer to TM 8-450.

DEATH CERTIFICATE OF MILITARY DOG				
REPORTING FACILITY AND LOCATION 26th Inf Plat Sct Dog Fort Benning, GA				DATE 5 May 71
TATTOO NUMBER A123	SEX M	NAME King	WHELPING DATE 1 Apr 1960	DATE OF DEATH 5 May 1971
CAUSE OF DEATH (State only immediate cause - Pneumonia, Euthanasia, etc.) Euthanasia -- No fault or neglect				
I CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE.				
TYPED NAME & GRADE OF VETERINARY OFFICER ROBERT O GREEN, CPT, USA, VC			SIGNATURE <i>Robert O. Green, Cpt. VC</i>	

DD FORM 1743, 1 Jul 70

Replaces DA Form 2808-R, 1 Jun 66, which is obsolete.

Figure 30. Certificate of death (DD form 1743).

PART FOUR

TRAINING

CHAPTER 10

BEHAVIOR OF DOGS AND PRINCIPLES OF DOG TRAINING

Section I. BEHAVIOR AND MOTIVATION

76. General

The behavior of the military working dog is the result of many factors. Some of these are heredity, natural instincts, basic senses, past experiences, and basic drives. Because of the depth and complexity of this subject, only those behavioral factors which are most important in the training and utilization of military dogs are considered. In this section, special emphasis is given to a dog's basic senses. Not only must the factors influencing behavior be recognized but also the types of behavior dogs exhibit must be considered. The behavior exhibited by dogs can be discussed using many of the same terms used in referring to human behavior. The behavioral characteristics considered essential in training and utilization of military dogs are sensitivity, energy, aggressiveness, intelligence, and willingness.

77. Basic Senses

Dog and man possess the same basic senses. Both use their senses to detect and alert on personnel and objects which are foreign to a given area. The senses of the dog, in order of importance to utilization and training are smell, hearing, sight, and touch.

a. Smell. One of the reasons why the dog has been selected for military work is that it has a keen sense of smell. Studies have shown that a dog responds to odor traces of all known sorts and in dilutions far more extreme than can be detected by man. Furthermore, it can distinguish between many odors which seem to human beings to be similar. The dog's sense of smell is invaluable to the handler because a great part of the dog's role as a detector depends upon its ability to pick up a scent.

b. Hearing. The dog's sense of hearing is another reason why this animal is invaluable when used in military operations. A dog has an acute sense of hearing. It can detect sounds twenty times better than man which means that it can detect sounds that would completely escape the notice of the handler. The dog's sense of hearing is also important because it is the principal medium through which the handler communicates with the dog. Some dogs appear to understand accurately the feelings and wishes of their handlers as they are conveyed by voice. Usually a word spoken in an encouraging tone, such as "Good boy," pleases a dog; a cross word such as the admonition "No," tends to depress the dog. It is important that the dog respond to a number of oral commands, for a dog soon learns to associate the sound and tone of a word with the action expected of it.

c. Sight. Besides being taught to react correctly to voice commands, the dog must also be taught to obey hand gestures, it does this through its sense of sight. With one exception—the ability to detect movement—a dog's vision cannot be compared favorably with that of the human. To the dog, everything *probably* appears to be constantly blurred and out of focus. In addition, it is *probably* unable to discriminate between colors and sees everything as a black and white or grayish picture. It is not known (at this time) just how well a dog can see, or determine, colors. However, it can detect a moving object ten times better than man, and responds to it.

d. Touch. There is a wide variation among dogs in their responsiveness to the sense of touch. Certain dogs are very susceptible to caress or physical correction; others appear to be rather insensitive to it. Consequently, a dog's sense of

touch can be determined when it is petted or corrected. Some dogs seem to understand physical praise or correction better than oral praise or correction.

78. Sensitivity

The term "sensitivity" refers to the type and degree of response a dog shows to a certain stimulus. The oversensitive dog may be startled by a stimulus that would evoke only a mild response from an unsensitive dog. The response of the oversensitive dog is often one of shyness or fright; the unsensitive dog responding to the same stimulus might merely turn its head or show no response at all. Sensitivity of sound and touch are completely independent of one another. For this reason, the sound of a gun may actually hurt a dog's ears and yet a slap with the hand may not bother it. In selecting a dog team, the characteristics of the handler should be matched with the sensitivity of the dog. Certain men lack the proper range or tone of voice and are unable to appeal to a dog successfully through its hearing. However, these same men may be excellent in handling a dog manually because of a certain fitness in muscular control and coordination. There should be no difficulty in rating a dog's response to stimuli, and, from a practical standpoint, this rating becomes helpful. The handler can form a definite opinion about the response his dog shows toward the stimuli of sound and touch during normal day-to-day contact with the dog.

a. Oversensitive Dogs. If the dog reacts excessively to a given stimulus, it may be oversensitive. An oversensitive dog is so handicapped that it is not likely to demonstrate its intelligence in a usable form. A dog which is oversensitive to either sound or touch, or both, is difficult to train and is usually considered unreliable. A dog that is oversensitive to sound may bolt at the sound of a gunshot. A dog that is oversensitive to touch may lie down and shake all over, as if frightened, when it is petted.

b. Unsensitive Dogs. A dog that is unsensitive to both sound and touch is difficult to train. A dog that is unsensitive to sound may not react at all when the stern admonition "No" is used. If it is unsensitive to touch, it may not react at all when the handler pets it. A dog unsensitive to either sound or touch, but not to both, can be instructed readily enough if the handler uses the correct approach. In such a case, the handler uses either his voice or his hand, whichever is appropriate.

c. Moderately Sensitive Dogs. A moderately

sensitive dog is somewhat sensitive to both sound and touch. With proper training, this dog responds willingly to hand gestures and vocal commands. It is trustworthy, willing, and ready to obey the given commands. The wisdom with which this dog is handled is the deciding factor in how well it performs. Properly trained, this dog is the ideal military dog.

79. Energy

Dogs differ not only in their degree of sensitivity but also in the degree of energy they show. A dog's behavior with regard to energy is quite evident. The term "energy," as used here, refers to the degree of spontaneous activity of the dog—the speed and extent of its movements in general, not in response to any certain command. Dogs differ widely in the degree of spontaneous activity exhibited, and the task of rating them in this respect is easier than that of rating for other functional traits. Different dogs show two extreme degrees of energy—one dog is the shiftless, lazy animal which shows no energy whatever unless required; the other is the animal that seems eager to move, wants to be active, and seems to be always on the go. The average dog is between these two extremes, a willing worker but not always on the go. Above average energy is not particularly necessary for military purposes, but a dog that possesses this trait can be trained to control some of its extra energy. A dog that shows little or no energy is difficult to train and should not be accepted for duty.

80. Aggressiveness

A dog that is energetic is not necessarily aggressive. There are three general degrees: overaggressive, unaggressive, and moderately aggressive. Each dog must be classified for aggressiveness to determine what action is necessary to decrease its aggressiveness, increase it, or perhaps maintain it at a constant level.

a. Overaggressive Dog. When an overaggressive dog sights a decoy, it usually becomes greatly excited, lunges at the end of its leash, and continues to lunge after the decoy disappears. Caution must be exercised while working with an overaggressive dog because it may attempt to bite anyone within reach during a period of excitement. Training procedures are designed to control, rather than arouse, the overaggressive dog.

b. Unaggressive Dog. This animal reacts negatively to the approach of a decoy. It may stand still, wag its tail, throw itself on the ground, or try to run away from the decoy. Training procedures consist of exercises which tend to de-

velop confidence and courage in the unaggressive dog.

c. *Moderately Aggressive Dog.* The ideal military dog is moderately aggressive. A moderately aggressive dog is the easiest to train. Upon seeing a decoy it becomes alert, shows suspicion of the decoy, and exhibits an eagerness to move towards the decoy. The majority of German Shepherd dogs fall into the moderately aggressive category, and normal training procedures are based upon this type of aggressiveness.

81. Intelligence

Generally, intelligence is the trait most closely related to a dog's success in training for work. Among the lower animals, the dog is rated as highly intelligent. A dog can be taught to respond correctly to a large number of spoken words. Only a few words are needed under ordinary working conditions, but some dogs have been known to respond to over 100 oral commands. A dog's rating for intelligence is based upon its ability to retain and use what it has learned. A dog can be rated high in intelligence if it is unusually capable of profiting by experience. A highly intelligent dog may be successful only when working with a handler who pleases it. With another handler, it may be unwilling and give the appearance of being stupid.

82. Willingness

a. This term is an arbitrary one used to refer to the dog's reaction to the commands given by the handler. It applies to the way the dog responds to a command and to its apparent cheerfulness and acceptance in learning new duties. The dog may make the correct response to a command, or it may make some other response. In either case, if it makes an enthusiastic attempt, it is considered willing.

b. A dog is ranked high in willingness if it continuously responds to a given command in an effort to fulfill it, even though reward or correction is not immediate. Whether the dog possesses the required intelligence and physical strength, or whether it succeeds or fails, is not considered in determining willingness.

c. If the handler must constantly coax his dog along or admonish it before the dog works satisfactorily, it is considered an unwilling worker. A great number of dogs are perfectly capable of executing the required movements but are strongly inclined not to do so. An unwilling dog may appear to make a distinction between work and play, and may take great pleasure in re-

trieving, searching for objects, and in taking jumps. The same dog may at times go to its handler spontaneously and apparently suggest a romp which may include any of the mentioned acts. When this situation is reversed and the handler initiates the activity, the dog, if unwilling, may seem to have forgotten all it ever knew.

d. A dog's willingness can be advanced or retarded by its handler. Improper handling may make a dog less willing at one time than at another time. For example, if the handler lacks patience, the dog may work willingly during the first few minutes of a training period but unwillingly during the remainder of the period.

e. Unwillingness can be confused with a lack of intelligence or with lack of sensitivity. If the correct approach is not used, a dog that is unsensitive to either sound or touch may appear to behave unwillingly to the commands and motivation given by the handler.

83. Motivation

As the handler becomes familiar with his dog's behavior, he learns the correct approach to use to motivate the dog. A dog should be motivated with an intangible reward.

a. *Intangible Reward.* Unlike most animals, a dog does not require special inducements, such as food, to work or train. Kindness, shown either by oral praise or by a casual caress, is usually enough to thoroughly motivate the dog. More than any other form of reward, the dog wants the approval of its handler.

(1) A dog seems to have a natural tendency to become attached to and seek companionship from its handler. The handler feeds, grooms, trains, and works his dog. As a result of this, the dog responds to commands, reacts to correction, and accepts praise. Through the handler's constant use of the oral admonition "No" when the dog misbehaves or otherwise needs correcting the dog learns to distinguish between praise and correction. The dog is eager to please the handler, and if the dog is praised each time it does its work correctly, it is anxious to advance to new training exercises. It is important that the handler honor the dog's affection.

(2) After a friendly relationship has been established between the dog and its handler, this relationship becomes the motivation needed to train the animal to become an efficient dog. Some type of corrective action must always be present; yet, it is more pleasant and more convenient to relay upon the dog's willingness to serve its

handler. Thus, a dog is properly motivated by an intangible rather than a tangible reward.

b. Tangible Reward. A tangible reward, such as food, should be used only in training of spe-

cialized dogs and/or when directed by competent authority. The food-reward or food-conditioning method of training is described in manuals on the training of specialized dogs.

Section II. PRINCIPLES OF DOG TRAINING

84. Know-How

The most fundamental principle of training is that the handler must know how each maneuver, act, technique, method, and position is accomplished before he can properly train his dog. There are standards of performance described for each training exercise; the handler must adhere to the proper methods and techniques so that these standards are achieved. He must conscientiously apply all of the principles with interest, enthusiasm, and a desire to attain perfection. He must demand complete obedience from his dog at all times. If the handler is negligent in his training procedures, the results are reflected in the dog's performance; therefore, it is essential that the handler possess personal discipline. This is especially true during the time he is applying the principle of repetition.

85. Repetition

The method by which dogs learn and become proficient in performing a task is repetition. It is essential that the dog be given the same command over and over again until the desired response is obtained. However, both the handler and his dog can lose efficiency by practicing any one command too much during one period. After practicing a command for 4 or 5 minutes, it is best to move on to another command; if this is not possible, at least 10 minutes should elapse before resuming practice of the original command. In the early stages of training, it is important to show the dog what to do when given a particular command. If necessary, the dog must be put into the proper position. Repeat the procedure as often as necessary until the dog learns what to do when given the command. Never allow the dog to assume a position incorrectly; if it begins to make an incorrect movement, correct it immediately; then, begin the exercise again, making sure that the dog does not make the same mistake.

86. Patience

One of the most important requirements of a dog handler is patience. To make a dog perform the same exercise repeatedly until it is properly executed is a task that requires the ultimate in self-

control. When a handler loses his temper, he loses control; this confuses the dog. Patience along with firmness results in a better trained dog.

87. Praise

The handler who displays patience can motivate his dog properly through praise. Whenever the dog successfully executes a command, even if its performance has taken more time than expected, always reward it with a pat on the head or praise it in some other way. The dog is anxious to please its handler, and the handler should respond by praising the dog lavishly. When it is praised highly, the dog senses that it has done the correct thing, and does it more readily the next time the same command is given. Several effective methods are used to praise a dog. Kind words often do the trick. One handler might prefer to pat his dog each time he wishes to reward him. Another handler might allow his dog a few minutes in which to romp and play, or he may allow the dog to perform its favorite exercises. Still another handler may apply a combination of these methods of praise. Each dog requires a special method. Each handler must determine which method of praise best suits his dog; this can be done during the handler's early association with the dog. If the handler is to maintain his dog's enthusiasm for work, each training period must be concluded with petting, praise, and encouragement. When the dog's performance of the training exercise does not warrant praise, allow it to perform a short exercise which it knows thoroughly and does well so it can earn a reward. Although the dog must be amply rewarded for those exercises performed correctly, it must be corrected when its performance is not satisfactory.

88. Correction

A dog does not understand right from wrong as humans do. Reward and correction are the means by which a dog is taught. If the dog does an exercise incorrectly, do not allow it to go uncorrected. Withholding praise, or the simple admonition "No," spoken reprovably, or a sharp jerk on the leash, usually proves to be sufficient for correction purposes.

a. Timing is probably the most important factor in administering any form of correction. Therefore, a reprimand, in whatever form, should be administered *immediately* when the incorrect act is performed. A dog cannot mentally connect a reprimand with an incorrect action committed sometime before the reprimand.

b. Never correct a dog for clumsiness, slowness in learning, or inability to understand what is

expected of it. In these cases, correction slows down the dog's training instead of accelerating it.

c. Observation, patience, self-control, and discretion are essential in correction. If the dog makes a mistake the handler may be at fault, and the handler should think for a second about why the mistake was made. Proper correction indicates proper thinking.

CHAPTER 11

OBEDIENCE TRAINING

Section I. BASIC TRAINING

89. General

Obedience training produces a reliable, obedient, well-trained dog. The specific methods of training outlined in this chapter are suitable for the fundamental training of all military dogs. In certain cases where the prescribed method may prove ineffective, the trainer may vary his techniques to achieve the desired level of training. The normal training period consists of approximately 20 minutes of obedience training followed by a 10-minute break. However, the age of the dog, climatic condition, and the number of dogs undergoing training may govern the length of the training period. During break periods, it is important that the dog be given an opportunity to rest and relax. In hot climates, the dog should have a place to rest which provides some type of shade.

90. Commands

Basic obedience training is applicable to both man and dog. The handler must first learn the different movements before he can begin training the dog. Then, the handler must teach his dog the different movements and commands.

a. While training his dog, the handler receives commands that are exactly like those used in all military drills. However, the execution of these commands, in some cases, is quite different. The command has two definite parts, the *preparatory command* and the *command of execution*. The handler must not anticipate a command of execution before it is given.

b. The dog is given only the commands of execution. Most of these commands are one syllable words, and they are easily given. If the commands are given clearly, they are easy for a dog to learn. Even though a word may have no meaning to a dog, the dog learns to associate the sound of a word with the exercise it is to perform.

c. To prevent any misunderstanding of the

commands given in this chapter, the first letter of each word in preparatory commands is capitalized, and all letters in commands of execution are capitalized. To further distinguish between the two parts of a command, a comma indicating a pause always appears between the *preparatory command* and the *command of execution*. For example, when the handler is commanded to face to the rear, the command is shown as About, FACE. Because all commands given directly to the dog are commands of execution they appear, for example, as HEEL. To prevent any unnecessary duplication, the illustrations referenced in the next paragraph depict the handler with his dog. (At this stage of training, however, the handler has not been assigned a dog.) The handler's position and movements are the same whether he is training with or without a dog.

91. Drill

Military drill with a dog requires more physical movement than does regular military drill. To get in the correct position, the handler and dog need enough room to make their movements together.

a. *Positions*. The handler must be completely familiar with the basic positions that are explained in this section by word and picture. The positions and their correct execution, in every detail, are learned without a dog before the handler proceeds to train with a dog.

(1) *Attention*. The position of attention is a two-count movement. Take, for example, the command Squad, ATTENTION. At the preparatory command Squad, the handler assumes the normal position of attention. At the command of execution ATTENTION, the handler takes one full step forward with his left foot and brings his right foot beside his left foot.

(2) *Rests*. All rest commands are executed from the halt and *only* from the position of attention. The commands are: Parade, Rest, AT EAST; REST; and FALL OUT.

(a) In the command Parade, REST, at

the preparatory command **Parade**, the dog is placed in a down position and given the command **STAY**, as shown in step 1 of figure 31. At the command of execution **REST**, the handler steps over and across his dog's back with his left foot, as shown in step 2. The left foot comes to rest on the ground next to the dog's left side and parallel to the handler's right foot, as shown in step 3. The legs are kept straight so that the weight of the body rests equally on both feet. At the same time, the handler places his left hand behind his back. The palm of the left hand is to the rear, and the fingers are closed and extended. The right hand and arm remain at the handler's right side. These are not precision movements which might cause the handler to kick the dog or cause the dog to jump. Silence and immobility are required while at the position of parade rest.

Note: After the handler has learned the position of parade rest, he will find there is an exception in executing the command of attention. From the position of parade rest, the step forward is not taken. The handler steps back over the dog with his left foot and assumes the position of attention.

(b) At the command **AT EASE**, the left foot is kept in place. Silence is required but motion is permitted.

(c) At the command **REST**, the left foot

is kept in place. Silence and immobility are not required.

(d) At the command **FALL OUT**, the handler leaves ranks but remains in the immediate area. At the command **FALL IN**, the former place is resumed at the position of attention in the formation prescribed.

b. *Movements.* With the exception of three, all marching movements executed by a dog team are the same as those used during regular military drill. *Right step, left step, and backward march are never executed by a scout dog team.* The execution of all facing movements executed by the handler and his dog are different from regular military drill.

(1) *Facings.* All facing movements are executed at a normal cadence and from the halt.

(a) The command **Right, FACE**, is a four-count movement, as shown in steps 1, 2, 3, and 4 of figure 32. At the command of execution **FACE**, the handler takes one step forward with the left foot while at the same time giving the command to **HEEL** and slapping his left leg with the palm of his hand. On the second count, he pivots 90 degrees to the right on the balls of both feet. On the third count, he takes one step forward with the right foot. On the fourth count,

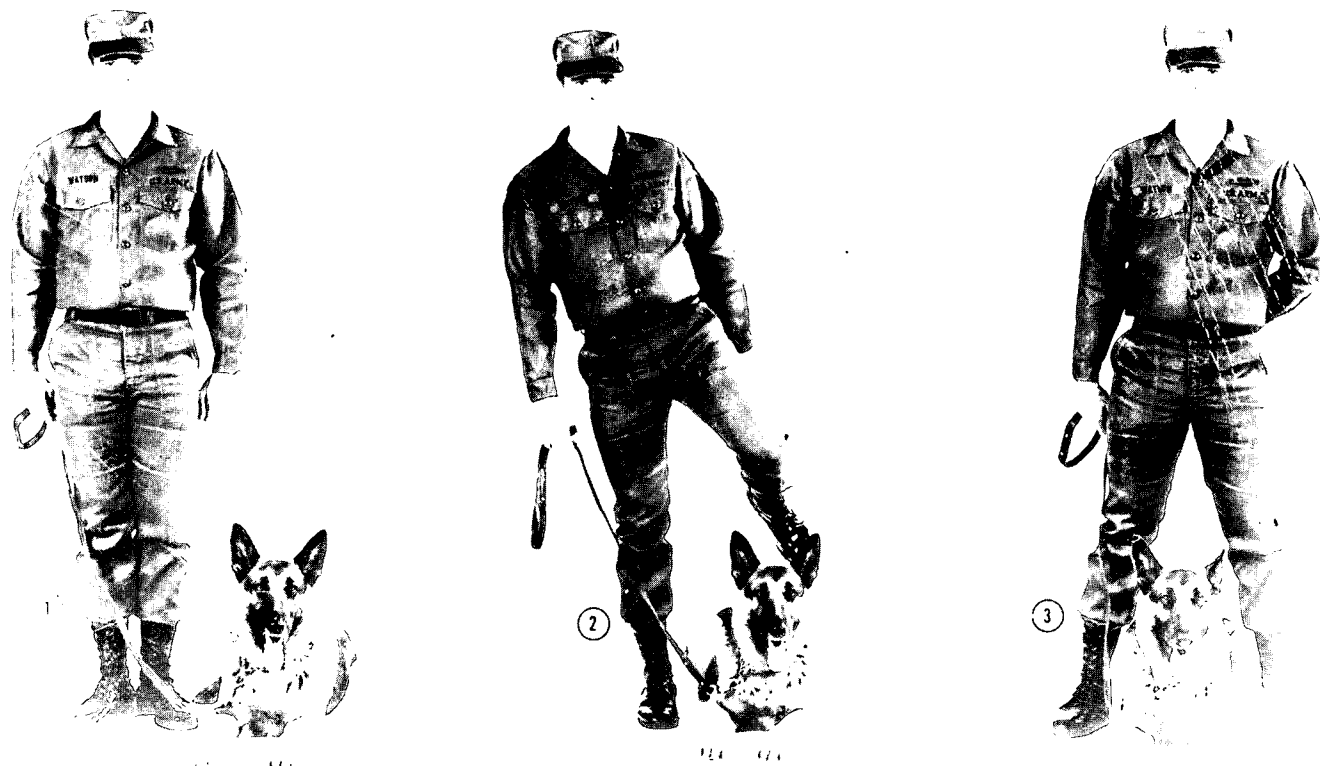


Figure 31. Parade rest.



Figure 32. Facing movements; right face.

he places the left foot beside the right foot as in the position of attention and gives the command SIT.

(b) The command Left, FACE, is a four-count movement, as shown in steps 1, 2, 3, and 4 of figure 33. At the command of execution FACE, the handler takes one step forward with the right foot. On the second count, he pivots 90 degrees to the left on the balls of both feet while at the same time giving the command to HEEL and slapping his left leg with the palm of his hand. On the third count, he takes one step forward with the left foot. On the fourth count, he places the right foot beside the left foot as in the position of attention and gives the command SIT.

(c) The command About, FACE is a four-count movement, as shown in steps 1, 2, 3, and 4

of figure 34. At the command of execution FACE, the handler takes one step forward with the left foot while at the same time giving the command HEEL. On the second count, he pivots 180 degrees to the right and faces to the rear. On the third count, he takes one step with the left foot in the new direction while at the same time giving the command HEEL. On the fourth count, he places the right foot beside the left foot as in the position of attention and gives the command SIT.

(2) *Marching.* During initial training and until proficiency is acquired, it may be necessary to use specific techniques in executing marching movements. For example, when the command of execution is given on right turns (such as REAR, MARCH, RIGHT FLANK, and COLUMN RIGHT), the handler can hold his right arm along his right side and slightly to the rear. This causes the leash to become taut when the handler makes his turn, thus, the dog remains close to its handler's side.

92. Familiarization

a. After the handler becomes proficient in drill positions and movements he is then assigned his dog. However, before the dog can be trained, the handler must develop a friendly relationship with his dog during a period of familiarization.

b. The handler must proceed cautiously with his newly assigned dog. He must not attempt to enter the dog's kennel until he has been accepted by the dog, and then only when he has been instructed to do so under the supervision of his trainer. The dog becomes accustomed to the handler's voice and smell if the handler remains close to but outside of the dog's kennel. The dog may be petted around the head and shoulders if it shows no indications of disliking the handler. The handler must refrain from putting his hands on the dog's flanks during this time, because some dogs are quite sensitive in this area.

c. The handler now enters the dog's kennel, but he must be careful not to make any sudden movements or gestures. He may coax, but not force the dog to his side. If the dog becomes unruly, the handler should try to avoid becoming frightened. He does not attempt to push the animal away but backs slowly out of the kennel. Even after a satisfactory relationship has been established, the handler always speaks to the dog before entering the kennel.

d. In some cases, the handler may require assistance from other personnel in effecting the



Figure 33. Facing movements; left face.

proper relationship with his dog. If the dog does not allow its handler in the kennel within a reasonable length of time, it may be necessary for a kennel supervisor, or someone from the kennel support personnel who has been accepted by the dog, to enter the kennel and muzzle the dog. The handler can then enter the kennel and begin his association with the dog.

e. The dog may be taken from its kennel after it has accepted its handler. At this time, the handler must follow all safety precautions explicitly. This is no time for the handler to display his initiative and ingenuity. Serious problems could arise from such actions that could compromise both safety and future usefulness of the dog. The handler should pet and talk to the dog and allow it to romp and play. When a good

handler-dog relationship has been established, the military dog team begins obedience training.

93. Formations

Three types of formations are used to teach the dog basic obedience. Each formation is designed for a specific purpose; however, each is flexible enough to be used for other training purposes. Basic obedience usually begins in the circle formation.

a. *Circle.* The *heel* position is one of the first positions that the dog learns. It can learn this quite rapidly in a formation that requires the dog to walk to the handler's left side without making any sharp turns. In the circle formation, the dog walks around in a circle at the handler's side. Upon command, the handler can reverse his

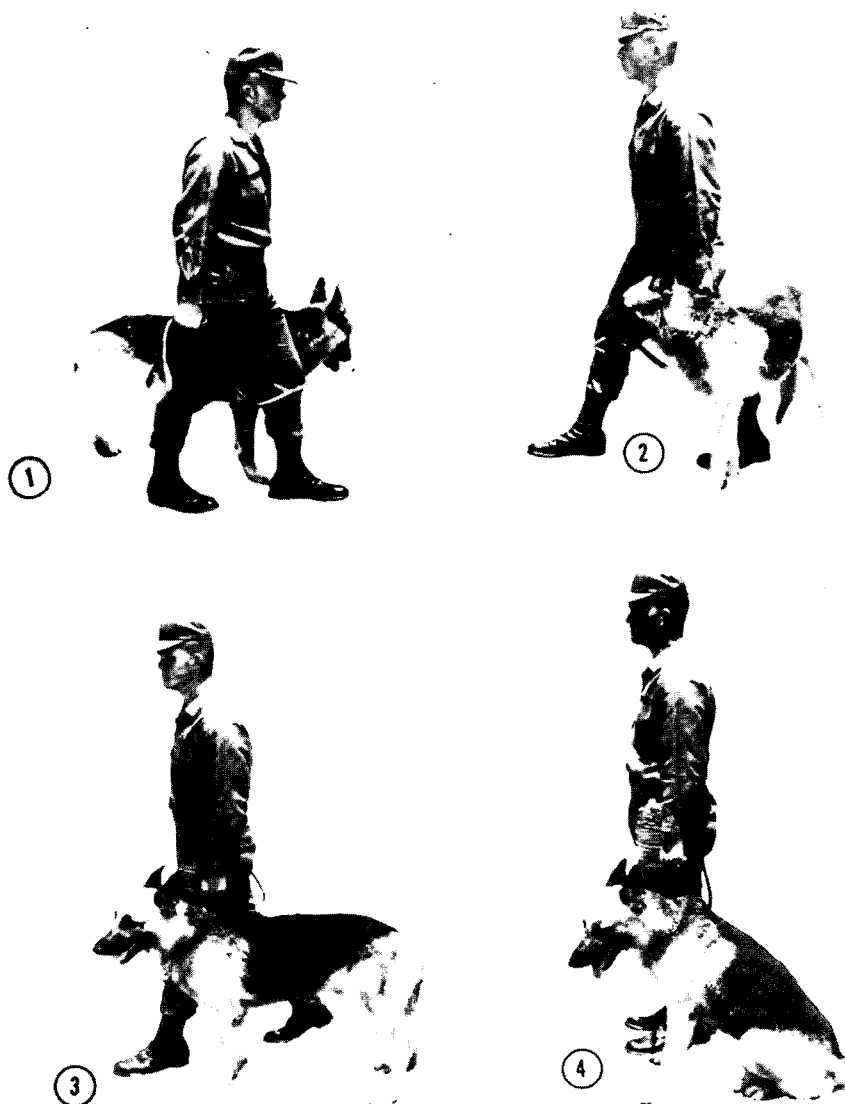


Figure 34. Facing movements; about face.



Figure 35. Circle formation.

direction, or, when necessary, he can stop and stand facing either the inside or the outside of the circle. The trainer usually stands in the center of the circle so he can observe all of the dogs as they are training. Other commands can be

taught in this type of formation, such as SIT, DOWN, and STAY. Another feature of this formation is that of safety. As more dogs are trained, the circle can be expanded to allow ample space for each dog to maneuver. Figure 35 shows a

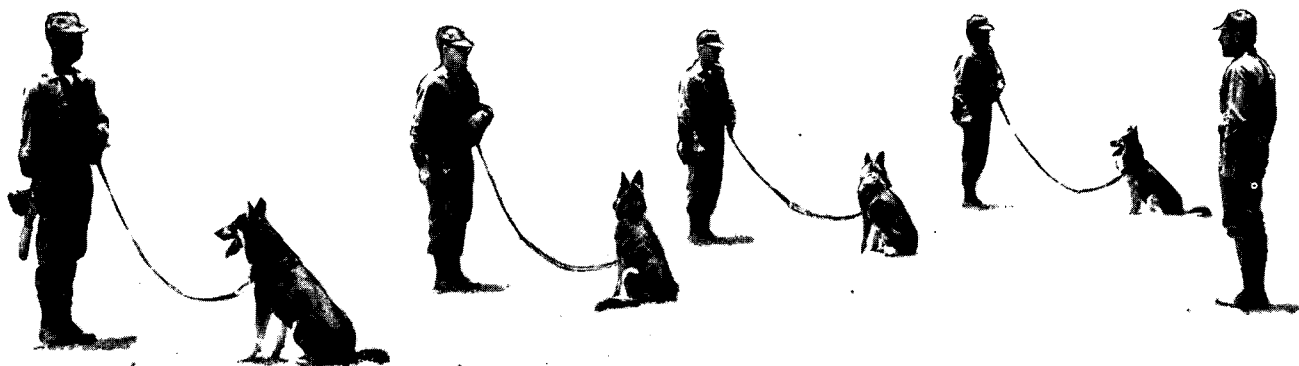


Figure 36. Line formation.

group of handlers teaching their dogs to walk at the heel position. The trainer has positioned himself so that by turning he can keep his eyes on all of the dogs, or, if necessary, on one particular dog.

b. Square. The square formation is used to teach the dog movements which require sharp turns. Left turns or right turns can be made from this formation, depending on the direction the handler is walking. This is an excellent formation to use in teaching the dog to stay in the correct heel position when making a sharp turn. This formation can be adjusted in size, and a safe distance can be maintained between dogs. The trainer positions himself where he can observe the dogs for correctness of performance. Handlers keep their dogs close at their sides as they execute right turns.

c. Line. The line formation can be used effectively to teach commands which require the handler and dog to be separated by the length of the leash. This formation is especially helpful when teaching a dog the commands of STAY and COME. The trainer positions himself anywhere along the line and observes the entire group of dogs at the same time. In figure 36 the dogs are being taught the command STAY. The line formation is also used for intermediate and advanced obedience training when a dog is learning to react to commands given from a greater distance than the length of the leather leash. This formation is also used during agitation training.

94. Commands

While training his dog, the handler uses both his voice and his hands to convey commands to the dog. If the dog is to react favorably to commands, the handler must have his dog's undivided

attention. Not only must the handler know what responses are expected from his dog, he must know how to achieve the desired responses; he can then proceed with confidence in himself and in his ability to use the commands properly.

a. Use of Commands. Simple commands are used to teach a dog obedience. They are short words or signals which, when given properly, are easy for a dog to grasp. The handler uses both oral commands and hand gestures to train his dog; therefore, it is of the utmost importance that the handler give these commands and gestures in a correct manner.

(1) *Oral.* The word used in an oral command is of little importance; it is the sound of the word that the dog associates with the movement required. For this reason, the handler must consistently give the command in the same manner and in the same tone of voice. It doesn't matter if his voice is high pitched or low pitched; but he must always use the same firm, clear, decisive tone of voice in giving a command.

(2) *Hand gestures.* Hand gestures are taught so that in actual field employment dog will respond to silent commands. When first introduced they are given simultaneously with the appropriate oral command. Voice commands and hand gestures can be given independently after the handler and his dog become proficient in the use of commands. As training progresses, the dog learns what is expected of it when the appropriate gesture is given.

b. Commands Taught. The commands taught during basic obedience training are used throughout the handler's association with his dog. The proficiency gained in basic obedience is reflected in all further training and working of the dog. The standards of performance for the

dog are printed in *italics* in the following discussion of each command.

(1) *Heel.* The initial command in dog training is the command HEEL. All additional commands or exercises start with and end in the heel position. The dog is trained to *walk, stand, or sit at its handler's left side, with the dog's right shoulder in line with the handler's left knee. The dog's body should be parallel with the handler's body, and the dog must neither forge ahead nor lag behind.*

(a) The verbal command is HEEL, and the gesture command is made by slapping the left leg with the left hand open. During initial training, the verbal command and the hand gesture are given simultaneously until the dog team becomes proficient. These commands can be given individually or need not be given at all when the dog has learned to stay in the proper heel position.

(b) Most verbal commands cannot be taught independently of each other. The commands SIT, STAY, and the command NO are taught in conjunction with the command HEEL. (Each of these commands is explained in detail later.)

(c) During initial training, the command HEEL may be used frequently as a training aid, but after the dog has learned this command, it should not be used excessively. As the dog develops proficiency, the handler gives the command HEEL only when he starts, halts, or changes directions. For example:

1. When called to attention, the command HEEL is given as the left foot strikes the ground.

2. At the command Forward, MARCH, the command HEEL is given simultaneously with the first forward step.

3. On movements toward the left, the command is given as the handler pivots.

4. On movements toward the right (including Rear, MARCH), the command is given as the handler pivots.

5. When coming to a halt, the command HEEL is given one pace before halting.

(d) When walking with its handler, the dog may get out of the heel position by moving ahead. The handler corrects the dog by giving a sharp jerk on the leash and by repeating the command HEEL. When necessary, the handler may give the command NO just before repeating the command HEEL. When a dog lags behind, it is coaxed into the proper heel position, *not jerked.*

(e) When the handler halts, his dog should assume the heel position; if it does not

get in the proper position, it must be corrected immediately. When the dog is not facing the right direction, the handler places his left hand, palm up, lightly under the dog's abdomen and shifts it until it faces in the proper direction. A dog that gets in a position that is too close to the handler can be corrected by placing the left hand against the right side of the dog's abdomen and pushing gently. When the dog is too far away, the handler places his left hand on the dog's left hip and pulls the dog into proper position.

(2) *No.* The command NO is a verbal reprimand and must be given in a harsh, firm voice. This command is used to correct the dog after it has made a mistake. *At the command NO, the dog should cease that activity for which it is being corrected.* If the command NO isn't enough to correct the dog, a jerk on the leash is used in conjunction with the command. This type of correction is used continually throughout training whenever the dog shows any lack of obedience to its handler's commands. The handler observes his dog closely at all times and gives the command NO if the dog begins to break position or perform incorrectly. For example, if the dog is in the down position and decides to sit up, the handler can readily spot his dog preparing to move and can immediately give the command NO. By using this procedure, the handler can usually prevent his dog from making improper movements.

(3) *Sit.* The command SIT is taught in conjunction with the command HEEL. *In the heel-sit position, the dog sits beside the handler's left leg; its body is parallel to, and its right shoulder in line with, the handler's left knee,* as shown in figure 37. When given the command SIT, the dog may be either standing or lying down. Upon hearing the command, it must promptly assume a sitting position. After learning the command SIT, the dog must automatically sit without command when coming to a halt from marching.

(a) The command SIT is given in a sharp, concise tone of voice. When this command is given, the handler grasps the leash several inches above the choke chain with his right hand. Figure 38 shows the handler placing his left hand over the hips of the dog with the fingers positioned at the base of the dog's tail; he then gives an upward jerk on the leash and pushes down and forward on his dog's croup with his left hand.

(b) The handler must not place his left hand on the dog's back or too high on the dog's hips. As training progresses and the dog learns



Figure 37. Sit position.

what it is expected to do when given the command SIT, physical assistance is no longer required.

(c) If the dog does not sit facing directly forward, the handler swings the dog's body around into the correct position. This is done by using the left hand to push or pull its hindquarters into the desired position. If the dog sits behind the handler or too far from his side, the handler pulls the dog's head to the left side with the leash; the left hand is used to restrain the dog to prevent it from getting up and following the leash. This type of correction is most effective if given just as the dog is in the act of sitting, before its hindquarters have touched the ground.

(d) During the introduction of the command SIT, the dog may get slightly out of posi-

tion. If this happens, the handler must not force his dog into the correct position. After the dog learns what is expected of it and it becomes more proficient, the handler can then make corrections on the dog's position. The dog must be praised each time it assumes the correct sitting position.

(e) The handler may also give the command SIT while he is out in front of his dog at the end of the leash. In this position, the dog is in the standing position facing toward the handler. During the introduction of SIT from the end of the leash, the handler holds the end of the leash in his left hand. He steps forward one step with his right foot, grasps the leash approximately 12 inches from the choke chain and gives an upward jerk and the verbal command SIT, as shown in 1, figure 39. After giving his dog



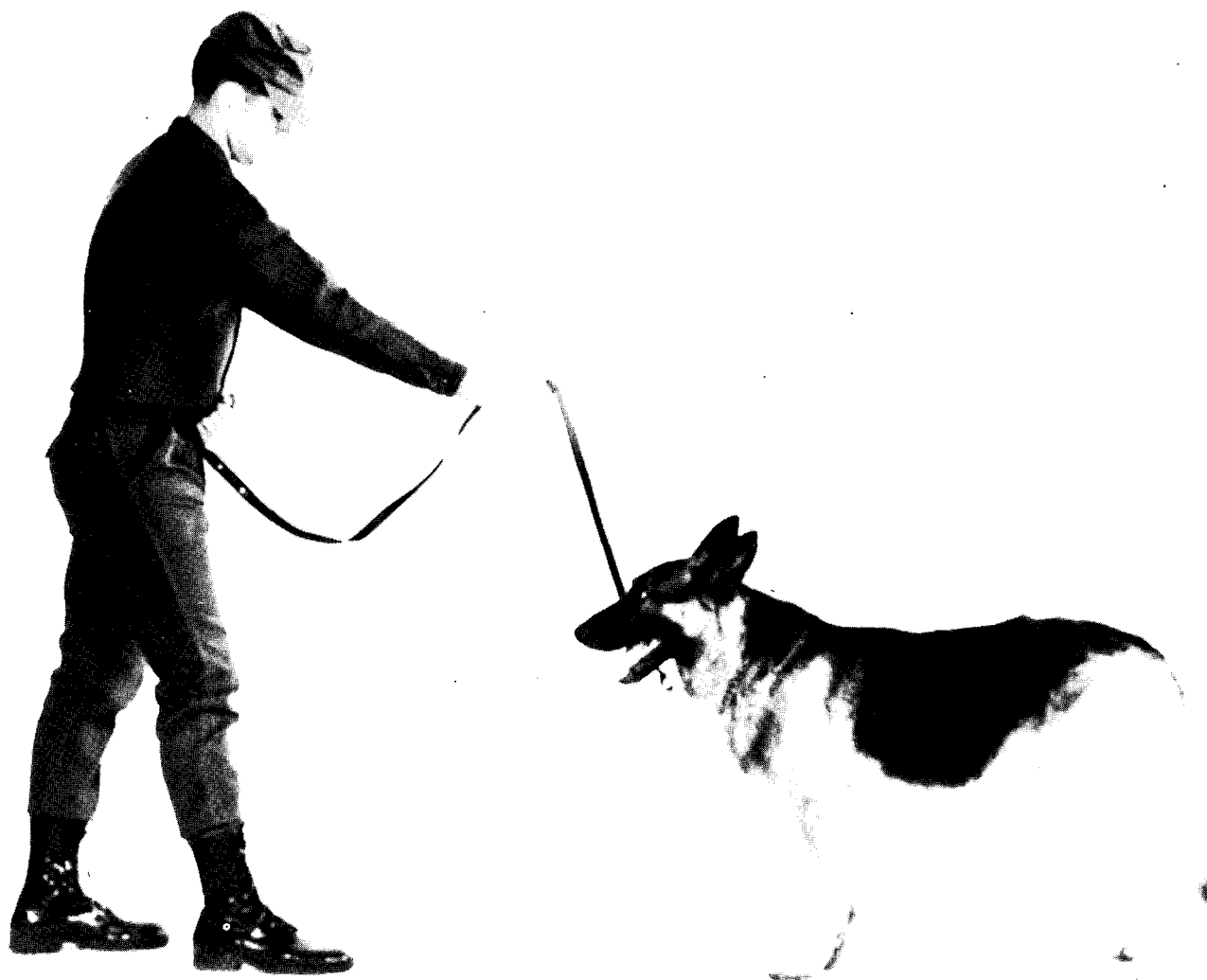
Figure 38. Teaching dog to sit.

the gesture and verbal command STAY, he brings his right foot back alongside his left foot (2, fig 39). Once the dog becomes proficient in the command SIT, the handler discontinues the step-in with the right foot. Instead, he gives the proper hand gesture in addition to the verbal command SIT. To give this gesture, the handler holds the end of the leash in his left hand and makes an upward gesture with his right hand, as shown in figure 40. If the dog continues to disobey, then the handler can jerk the dog while at the same time giving the command SIT. Because the dog needs to be jerked and not pulled, the handler should hit or slap the leash instead of grabbing. This produces a quick jerk instead of a pulling sensation.

(4) *Stay*. When the dog has shown obedience to the preceding commands, the handler may be-

gin teaching the command STAY. This command is given in a firm tone of voice. It may be given while the dog is in any position. *On hearing the command STAY, the dog must stay in the same position which it held when given the command.* Furthermore, the dog must remain in that position until the handler gives it another command.

(a) Initial training in the command STAY is conducted while the dog is in the sit position. When the dog is at its handler's side, either standing, sitting, or lying down, the gesture for it to *stay* is given simultaneously with the oral command. To do this, the handler gives the command STAY in a firm, steady tone as he brings his left hand, palm toward the dog, back in a short, decisive gesture. The handler does not slap the dog but brings his hand straight back



①

Figure 39. Introducing dog to sit hand gesture at end of leash.

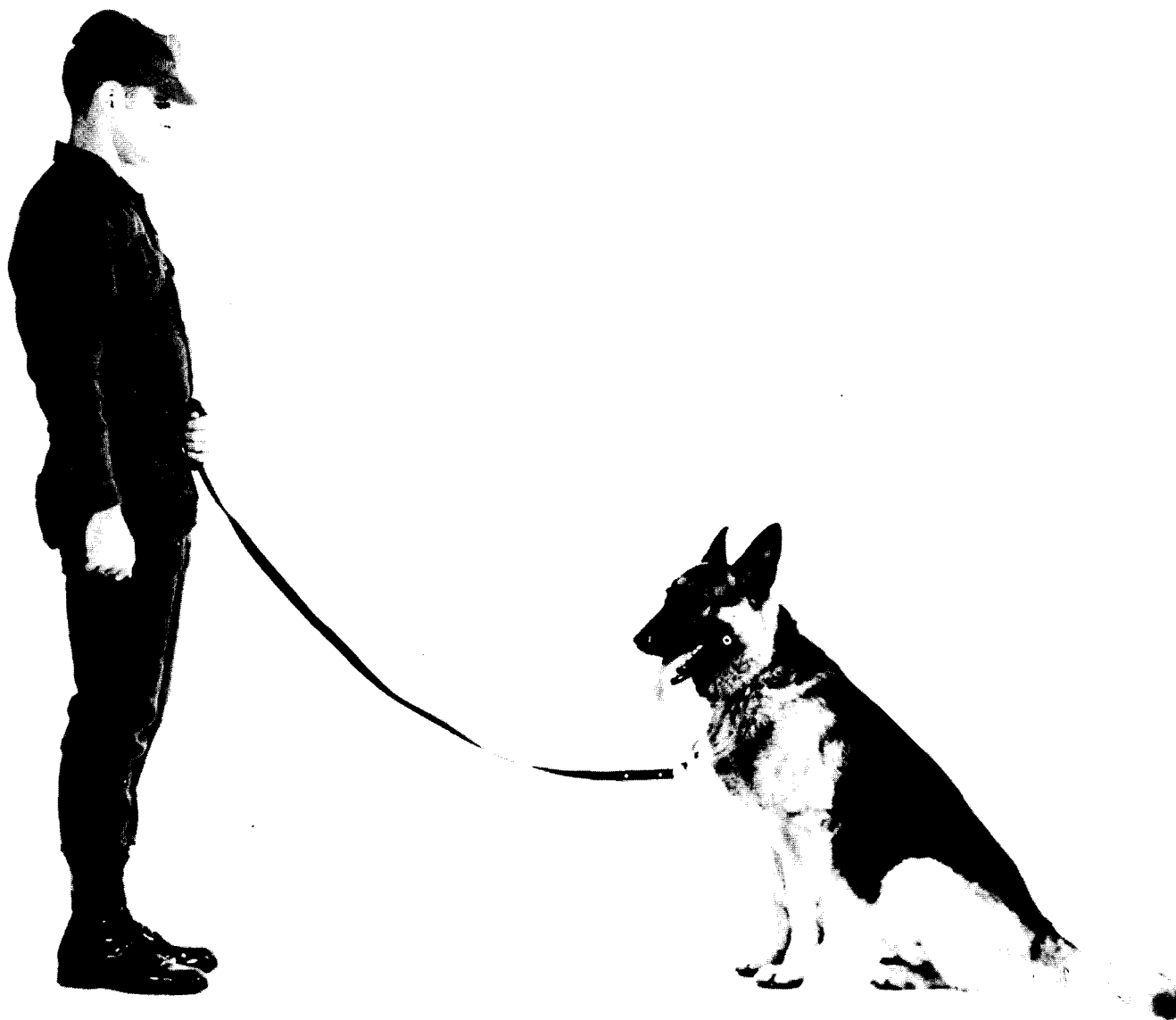
to his dog's nose, as shown in figure 41. This gesture conveys the necessary authority when skillfully executed; it appears as a threat when poorly executed.

(b) To begin an exercise at the end of the leash, the handler first moves from beside his dog to the end of the leash; to do this, the command *STAY* is given in a firm voice along with a decisive hand gesture. Then, the handler steps forward with his right foot. The dog should never move when his handler takes a step with his right foot. The handler then walks to the end of the leash, does an about face, and faces his dog.

(c) The handler does not move the full length of the leash from the dog when this exer-

cise is first practiced. Also, to prevent the dog from becoming too tired, the practice periods are short. As the dog's performance improves, the distance between the handler and dog are increased.

(d) While moving away from the dog to the end of the leash, the handler changes the leash from the right hand to the left hand. The handler then extends his arm and hand so that the palm of the hand faces directly toward his dog, as shown in figure 42. If the dog begins to move, it is corrected immediately; the handler gives the command *STAY*. If the dog actually breaks position, the handler gives the command *NO*, *SIT* (as the dog is put in the sit position), and *STAY* (as he gives the proper hand gesture).



②

Figure 39—Continued.

(5) *Down.* As the dog's performance in executing the commands HEEL, SIT, NO, and STAY improves the handler then starts teaching the command DOWN. A dog frequently resists this exercise; therefore, it is not repeated too often in succession. To prevent this resistance, it sometimes helps if the handler alternates from this exercise to the heeling and sitting exercises.

(a) *In the down position, the dog lies parallel to the handler's body, and its right shoulder is in line with the handler's left foot, as shown in figure 43. If the dog rolls on its side it is not in the down position and should*

be corrected immediately. Physical correction is made by placing the dog in the proper position and by giving the command STAY.

(b) When given the command DOWN, the dog must lie down promptly. When the handler first introduces this command, the dog is in the *heel-sit* position. The command is given in a firm, steady voice; at the same time, the handler bends down and places his left hand on the leash just above the snap. As the handler gives the verbal command DOWN, he pulls down on the leash with the left hand, as shown in figure 44. (If the dog has a small neck, it may cause slack



Figure 40. Sit hand gesture at end of leash.

in the chain. In this case, it may be necessary to grab the choke chain instead of the leash to have enough room to pull downward.) If pulling on the dog's leash does not put it in the down position, the handler will have to simultaneously pull the dog's front legs forward. After the dog is in the *down* position, the command STAY (in conjunction with the hand gesture for stay) is given so that the dog remains in the *down* position when the handler returns to the position of attention.

(c) The handler must use extreme caution during the introduction of the command DOWN, because the dog may resent the use of force. The

handler's position is such that he could easily be bitten if the dog snapped. The left hand may be used as an effective aid to safety because it is on the choke chain, and the handler can push the dog away from his face, leg, or right hand.

(d) After the dog has executed the DOWN command satisfactorily, it is kept in position for a short time while the handler stands at its right side. Then the dog is given the command SIT, and if it comes to the *sit* position satisfactorily, it is highly praised. If the dog's performance is unsatisfactory, the handler gives the command SIT and at the same time jerks up on the leash; this should cause the dog to sit



Figure 41. Stay hand gesture, handler beside dog.

up. If this fails, the handler must give the command NO, SIT and jerk harder on the leash.

(e) The handler repeats this exercise, using the command DOWN until his dog ceases to resist it. If at any time the dog shows signs that it may break position, it is corrected by using the command STAY. If the dog needs correction while it is in the *down* position, the handler does not move his feet because this movement may confuse the dog. When the dog breaks position, the handler immediately puts the dog back into the *sit* position and again gives it the command DOWN.

(f) As the dog's performance of the command DOWN improves, the handler should refrain from pulling down on the choke chain until

the dog has an opportunity to obey the command and gesture.

(g) After the dog becomes proficient at executing the command DOWN, the handler can begin another exercise using the command DOWN. With the dog in the sit position, the handler gives the command STAY. The handler then moves to the end of the leash, changing the leash to his left hand before completing the move. Figure 45 shows the procedures used during the introduction of the command DOWN from the end of the 60-inch leash. The handler steps forward one step with his right foot and grasps the leash about 6 inches from the choke chain. He then gives a downward jerk and the verbal command DOWN. Once the dog is down, the handler



Figure 42. Stay hand gesture, handler in front of dog.

gives the gesture and verbal command STAY and brings his right foot back alongside his left foot. As the dog makes progress, the step in can be discontinued. The handler gives the command DOWN, and a sweeping downward gesture is made with the right hand, as shown in figure 46. The handler may praise his dog when it executes the DOWN position.

(6) *Take cover.* The command TAKE COVER is not a command to the dog but to the handler. This command is taught to prevent the dog from becoming alarmed or confused when his handler drops to the ground. This cover action is necessary when the handler must assume a defensive position to protect himself. At the same time the handler drops to the ground, he gives his dog the command DOWN. The dog then

goes to the *down* position as the handler drops to the ground. When the handler first practices this exercise, he must not drop to the ground too suddenly; if he does, his dog may become frightened and attempt to jump up. After several trials the dog becomes accustomed to this exercise.

(7) *Come.* The final command taught during basic obedience training is the command COME. The other basic obedience commands, particularly the command STAY, must have been taught and the dog must be performing satisfactorily before the handler teaches the command COME. To execute this movement correctly, *the dog, upon hearing its name called followed by the command COME and the proper gesture, comes promptly to the heel position at*



Figure 43. Down position.

his handler's side. To begin this exercise, the handler gives his dog the command STAY. Stepping off with the right foot, the handler moves to the end of the leash and turns to face his dog. He calls his dog's name, and follows it with the command COME: for example: Duke! COME. (During the progression of training, calling the dog's name is omitted.) As the handler calls and gives the command COME, he tugs lightly on the leash to suggest the meaning of the command and gives the gesture shown in figure 47. After giving the appropriate gesture, he quickly changes the end of the leash to his right hand and gives the command HEEL. During the early stages of this exercise, the handler may be more effective in teaching the command COME if he uses the following method. As the dog ad-



Figure 44. Down hand gesture, handler beside dog.

vances, the handler steps back with his left foot, grasps the other end of the leash with his left hand, and guides the dog around and into the *heel* position. When the dog is in the *heel* position, the handler assumes the position of attention and gives the command SIT.

(8) *Crawl.* On the command CRAWL, the dog is either beside or facing toward the handler. (This movement is useful if the dog team comes under enemy fire or observation.) When first teaching a dog to crawl, the handler should not lie down beside the dog because the animal could become irritated and might snap at the handler's face. Instead, the handler should kneel down in front of the dog and make the dog crawl toward him by pulling on the leash. While the



Figure 45. Introduction of down position at end of leash.



Figure 46. Down gesture at end of leash.



Figure 47. Come gesture.

handler is pulling on the leash he should use the hand gesture for CRAWL, which is done by waving the hand from side to side in front of the dog's face. If the dog tries to rise, the handler pulls down and forward on the choke chain and at the same time gives the command CRAWL. When the dog becomes proficient at crawling, the handler stands facing the dog at a distance of several feet and gives the oral command, and the hand gesture, to CRAWL (fig 48). When

the dog has progressed satisfactorily in this phase of training the handler can give the command DOWN and then lie down beside the dog. Now the handler starts to crawl, gives the command CRAWL, and encourages the dog to crawl beside him. After teaching the basic commands HEEL, NO, SIT, STAY, DOWN, TAKE COVER, COME and CRAWL, the handler is ready to advance to the next phase of training, intermediate obedience training.



Figure 47—Continued.



Figure 47—Continued.



Figure 47—Continued.



Figure 47—Continued.



Figure 47—Continued.



Figure 47—Continued.



Figure 48. Crawl position.

Section II. INTERMEDIATE TRAINING

95. General

Intermediate obedience training consists primarily of teaching the dog to be obedient while the handler is at the end of the 300-inch training leash. Obedience at the obstacle course is also a part of this training.

96. Commands From a Distance

a. The primary objective of the training is to further develop the control the handler has over his dog. The dog must be taught to execute all of the basic commands at a distance from his handler. The techniques used with the leather leash can be used with the 300-inch web training leash. If the dog does not react properly to commands while on the 300-inch leash, the handler reverts to the use of the 60-inch leash. Patience and repetition are necessary when conducting this training.

b. Initially, it is difficult to train a dog to stay in any given position while its handler may be as much as 25 feet away. When the handler goes more than 4 or 5 feet beyond his dog, the dog may have a tendency to break position. This

is natural, because the dog has developed a liking for its handler and may want to follow him. The handler must repeat all exercises until he has complete control over his dog; this requires patience.

c. The handlers place their dogs in a line when conducting obedience training from the end of the 300-inch leash. The dog must be taught to sit and to lie down when given the appropriate vocal command or hand gesture. Both are used simultaneously in the beginning, but as training progresses, the dog is taught to react separately to either the vocal command or the hand gesture. Usually, it is best to train the dog in distant obedience for a while and then work it on the confidence course.

97. Confidence Course

a. Most military dogs perform strenuous duty. Because of this, the handler cannot expect his dog to maintain maximum proficiency unless it is in top physical condition. In addition to receiving proper food and medical care, it must be exercised frequently and regularly; however, the



Figure 49. Types of obstacles.

handler must consider his dog's age and physical ability.

b. A confidence course provides an excellent medium for exercise. The use of such a course aids the handler in developing control over his dog, and builds the dog's self-confidence. In order to be beneficial, the course must contain several different types of obstacles. Figure 49 depicts three obstacles which could be used in a confidence course.

c. Almost any dog can jump a 3-foot hurdle. Because of the military dog's size, this is not too difficult. The purpose of this training is to get the dog to jump on command. At this stage of training, the dog has been taught to walk in the heel position at his handler's side. The command used during this exercise is HUP. Upon

hearing this command, the dog jumps or scales the obstacles and then returns to its handler's side in the heel position.

d. The dog may have been taught to jump over hedges or other obstacles but may be afraid of a hurdle. For this reason, it is often advisable to start this exercise using a hurdle that has removable boards. Almost all of the boards can be removed until the hurdle is low enough for the dog to walk over. The handler begins this exercise by stepping over the hurdle with his left foot as he simultaneously gives the command HUP. If the dog hesitates or balks, the handler stops on the far side and coaxes or helps the dog over by tugging on the leash. After the dog successfully crosses the hurdle, the handler steps away from it, praises his dog, and then gives the command HEEL.

e. This exercise is continued until the dog can walk or jump over the hurdle without help. When the dog clears the hurdle at its initial height, the boards can be inserted one at a time until a height of not more than 3 feet has been attained.

f. By the time the handler inserts three or four boards, the dog should be so proficient in the execution of the command HUP that the handler need not continue to step over the hurdle with his dog. Instead, the handler passes around the hurdle on the right side; the leash is slack and in his left hand. As the handler passes the hurdle, he gives the command HUP. If this procedure is followed, the dog soon learns to jump over the hurdle when the handler gives the command HUP before passing the hurdle.

g. It is important that practice in jumping and scaling not be overdone in any one period. Although the dog may enjoy these exercises, they are very tiring. In determining the length of these exercises, the handler must consider his dog's age and the weather. He must not overwork his dog during hot weather. A young dog can stand longer and more rigorous training exercises than an older dog. Specific instructions can be obtained from the veterinarian as to what training on the confidence course old dogs and dogs with medical problems should receive.

h. When a dog is taught to crawl through a tunnel, it is usually necessary for his handler to assist it. The dog can be walked to the end of the tunnel to examine it. Then the handler holds the leash close to the snap, coils the remainder of the leash, and throws it through the tunnel.

The handler then attaches the snap to his dog's choke chain, puts the dog in the DOWN position, and commands it to STAY. The handler then moves to the other end of the tunnel, looks through it so the dog can see him, and coaxes the dog through; if necessary, the handler tugs on the leash; this indicates to the dog that its handler wants it to come through the tunnel. The commands COME and CRAWL may also be used during initial training.

i. After the dog has accomplished this exercise, it is praised and the exercise is repeated until the handler's assistance is no longer required.

j. When the dog is taught to walk along a log or ladder, the handler stays close to the dog's side and continuously encourages it. If the dog jumps off the log before completing the walk, it is praised for having walked that far; then, the exercise is undertaken again. The dog soon gains confidence in its ability to walk over the obstacle and does so while its handler walks along near or beside it.

k. Caution must be used during this exercise. Before the exercise begins, the log or ladder is checked to determine its condition. If the log or ladder is wet and slippery, it must be dried to prevent injury to the animal.

l. When the dog is completely obedient and correctly executes the commands given it from a distance, and when it boldly traverses the confidence course without error, the objectives of the intermediate phase of obedience training have been accomplished. The handler then proceeds to the advanced phase of obedience training.

Section III. ADVANCED TRAINING

98. Purpose

The purpose of advanced obedience training is to gain the control needed by a dog team before advancing to the more specialized phases of dog training. The handler must have complete control over his dog during the performance of field problems and security duties.

99. Off-Leash Obedience Training

a. This training is conducted by working a dog off leash and at varying distances from the hand-

ler; all of the commands taught in basic and intermediate obedience training are used. If any difficulty is encountered during this phase of training, the handler immediately reverts to the use of the 300-inch training leash. Because the dog is off leash, it is absolutely essential that all commands be obeyed immediately.

b. To prevent the possibility of dog fights during the initial phase of this training, a good procedure is to muzzle all dogs. However, this procedure is discontinued as soon as possible because it is distracting to the dog.

APPENDIX A

REFERENCES

AR 40-1	Composition, Mission, and Functions of the Army Medical Department.
AR 40-3	Medical, Dental, and Veterinary Care.
AR 40-655	Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases of Animals.
AR 40-905	Veterinary Animal Services.
AR 190-12	Military Police Working Dogs.
AR 385-30	Safety Color Code Markings and Signs.
AR 700-81	Department of Defense Dog Program.
AR 735-11	Accounting for Lost, Damaged, and Destroyed Property.
FM 21-75	Combat Training of the Individual Soldier and Patrolling.
FM 31-25	Desert Operations.
FM 31-35	Jungle Operations.
FM 31-70	Basic Cold Weather Manual.
FM 31-71	Northern Operations.
FM 31-72	Mountain Operations.
TM 8-450	Veterinary Specialist.
ATP 7-167	Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog) (TOE 7-167).
ASubjScd 7-39	Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog).
ATT 7-167	Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog) (TOE 7-167).

APPENDIX B

FEEDING AND CARE IN COLD CLIMATES

Section I. FEEDING

1. Well-Balanced Diet

In cold weather a well-balanced diet helps keep a dog warm. The dog requires a well-balanced ration of protein (meat and/or fish), fat, and carbohydrates. The amount of fat and carbohydrates may be increased in cold weather to provide quick energy for the dog. Nutritious carbohydrates are found in foods such as oatmeal, corn, and rice meal. Fat can be provided in a combination of animal fat and vegetable oils such as corn oil. A daily level of protein must be given to the dog or it will soon develop deficiency symptoms. A quarter of the ration should be protein.

2. Sources of Protein

Walrus or seal meat is regarded as an excellent food for dogs. White whale, nar-whal, polar bear, reindeer, caribou, and fish also are good. Salmon is commonly used in Alaska, while cod, halibut, salmon-trout or char, and shark are the most nutritious fish in the eastern Canadian arctic and Greenland area. *Fresh shark flesh is poisonous and should never be fed to dogs except in food emergencies, and then only in very small amounts.* If boiled for several hours or dried, or after it is a week old, shark flesh can be eaten safely and is fairly good dog food. An all meat diet fed over a long period of time may produce deficiency disease. The feeding of whole carcasses provides a better balance than meat alone. (Do not feed polar bear livers.)

3. Watering

Usually it is not necessary to water dogs if clean snow is available. If there is no snow, the dogs should be watered early in the morning and shortly before their afternoon feeding. If dry food is used, it is well to offer water to the dogs at least half an hour after the meal. Special efforts should be made to provide the animal with potable drinking water. Dehydration in cold cli-

mates is a serious problem requiring extra care to get adequate water to the dog.

4. Feeding Time

Working dogs should be fed only once a day, and the feeding should take place at the end of the day's work. When fed before or in the middle of the workday, the dogs often refuse to work and frequently may vomit. Dogs should be rested at least half an hour after work and before being fed. At the kennel, when the dogs are not working, they should be fed at a specified time. When in the kennel a dog in poor condition should be fed twice a day to be brought back into good shape.

5. Patrol Food

a. Patrol food must be prepared in advance, although in some parts of western and eastern Canadian arctic regions it will be possible for experienced hunters to obtain seal or walrus meat while traveling. If game is available on patrol, it will materially reduce the weight to be carried by the dog team.

b. Dried fish is a common trail food. Fish can be freshly caught, and prepared by cutting it into strips and hanging it up to dry.

c. If fuel is abundant, cooked rice and fish may be used as a patrol food. It has the advantage of taking up very little space. For each dog 2 1/2 pounds of cooked rice (about 6 ounces, dry) are mixed and cooked with 1/8 to 1/4 pound of fish. In addition, each dog is fed 1/2 pound of dried fish.

d. An excellent dog food commonly used on operations in the Antarctic is a mixture of a commercial dog food with seal oil or preferably cod liver oil. Commercial dog food alone will not keep the dogs in good condition over long periods; the high caloric value of the added oil will

provide much additional energy. If cod liver oil is not available, other oil can be easily rendered from seal or walrus blubber. The common method of preparation is to mix the oil and the commercial food into a pastelike consistencey, mold it to form 1 1/2-pound cakes, and then freeze.

This makes a convenient, nutritious, compact, and easy-to-pack food, probably the best all-round food. If the weather is not sufficiently cold to keep the cakes frozen, the mixture may be stored in 5-gallon tins of the type commonly used in packing dehydrated food.

Section II. PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DISEASE AND INJURY

6. General

The treatment of disease and injuries among animals, as well as the prevention of disease, is the function of the Veterinary Service. However, at arctic outposts this service may not be immediately available. Thus, it becomes the duty of each soldier to be vigilant and intelligent in the application of simple measures to prevent the occurrence of diseases and injuries among the dogs. Dogs normally are very hardy, but injuries are quite common and diseases often develop which require emergency treatment. In this section, preventive measures and first aid treatments are briefly discussed. The treatments suggested are intended for use by anyone familiar with the handling of dogs. However, whenever possible, sick or injured animals should be placed in the care of a veterinarian.

7. Frostbite

a. Lightly furred dogs are subject to frostbite on the tips of the ears, pads of the feet, testicles, and underparts of the thighs.

b. Treatment involves putting the dog in a cool sheltered inclosure to thaw out. Place the hands on the affected parts to stimulate recovery, but **DO NOT RUB OR MASSAGE THE AFFECTED PARTS**. Eskimos sometimes wrap the frozen thighs of dogs in fur skins.

8. Frozen Lungs

This condition sometimes results from working dogs hard in extremely cold weather.

a. Symptoms. Difficult breathing, wheezing, coughing, collapse.

b. Treatment. The dog should be placed in a sheltered inclosure and wrapped in blankets or a protective covering. If the dog is stricken while on the trail, the animal should be placed on the sledge and transported (air lifted) to the nearest station. No attempt should be made to work the dog until it appears to be normal. Dogs that do not show signs of recovery in a few hours should be treated in the same manner as dogs with pneumonia.

APPENDIX C

SHELTERS

1. Flexibility

The German Shepherd can be used in the military dog role anywhere in the world, including arctic regions, due to the animal's ability to adjust to climatic conditions. In the North, for example, it develops heavy undercoat to protect it from the cold.

2. Employment

a. Military dog teams may be assigned to work with mountain and/or ski troops operating 10,000 to 12,000 feet above sea level. However, in order to function efficiently at such high altitudes the handler and dog must be trained to move over cliffs, rocks, ravines, glaciers, and deep snow.

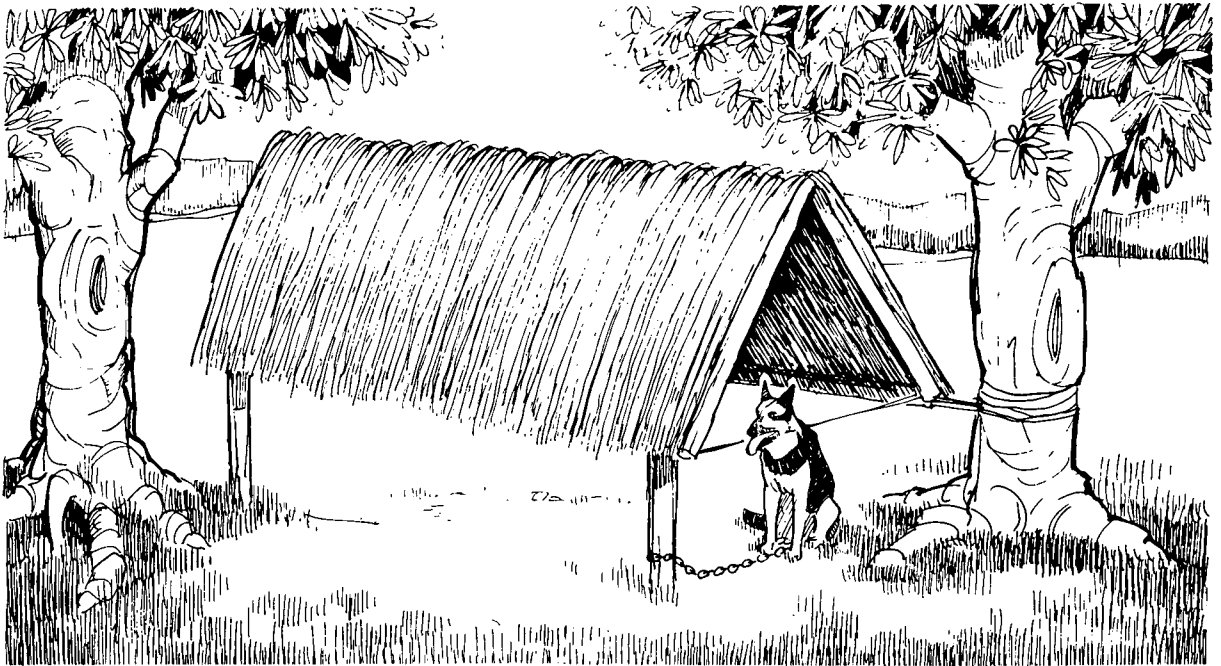
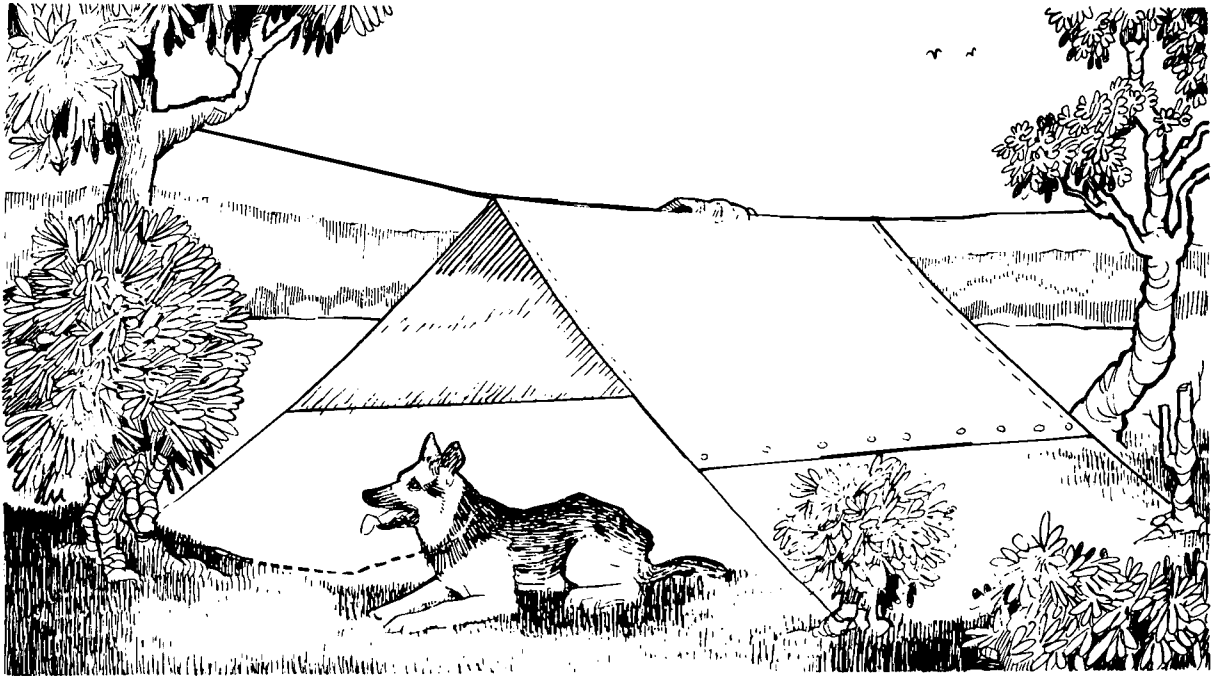
b. It is essential that both handler and dog become acclimatized to and be trained at the high terrestrial elevations where they are to be used. Habitation must be continuous because elevation acclimatization is rapidly lost upon returning to lower elevations.

c. The handler must be able to use snowshoes and be able to ski.

d. The handler's knowledge must also include how to prepare shelters. Satisfactory shelters may be found in caves, under overhanging cliffs, behind thick bushes, or may be constructed from saplings and tree boughs or shelter halves. The type of operation and weather conditions will usually dictate how much time can be spent in shelter preparation. Digging foxholes in northern regions is usually difficult because of the stony soil, frozen earth, and bedrock which is often close to the land surface. In areas covered by volcanic tuff digging is relatively easy, however. And in areas where rocks and boulders exist shelters may be constructed from such material (fig 50).

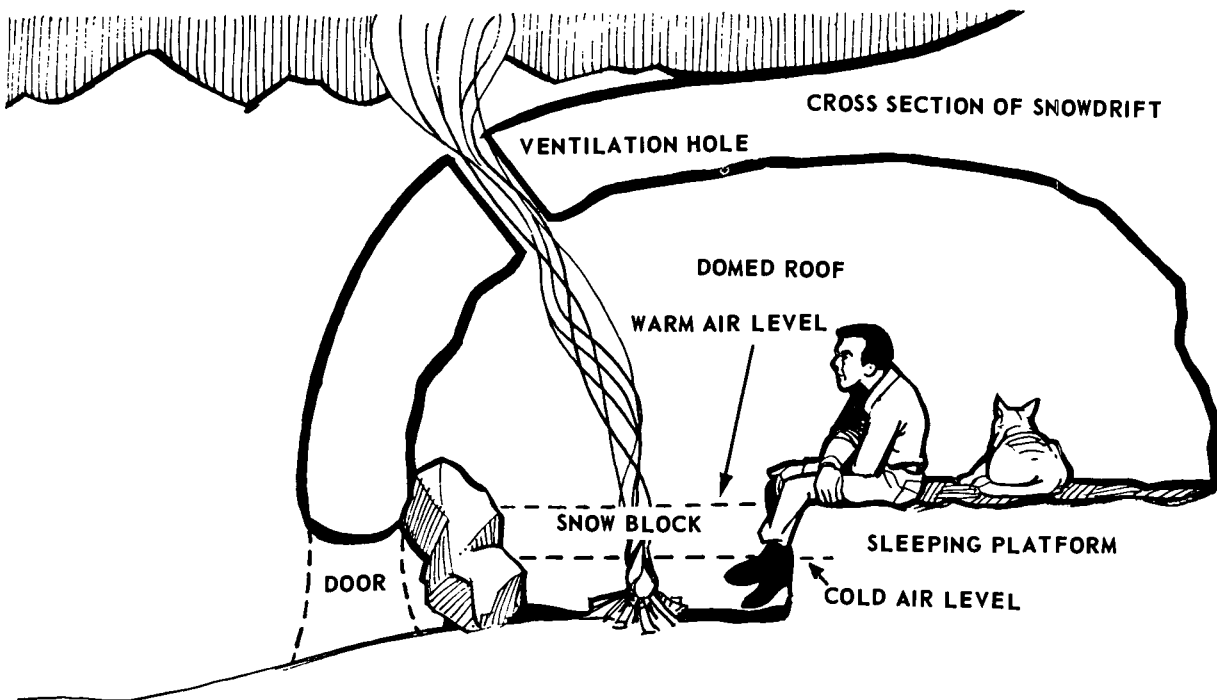
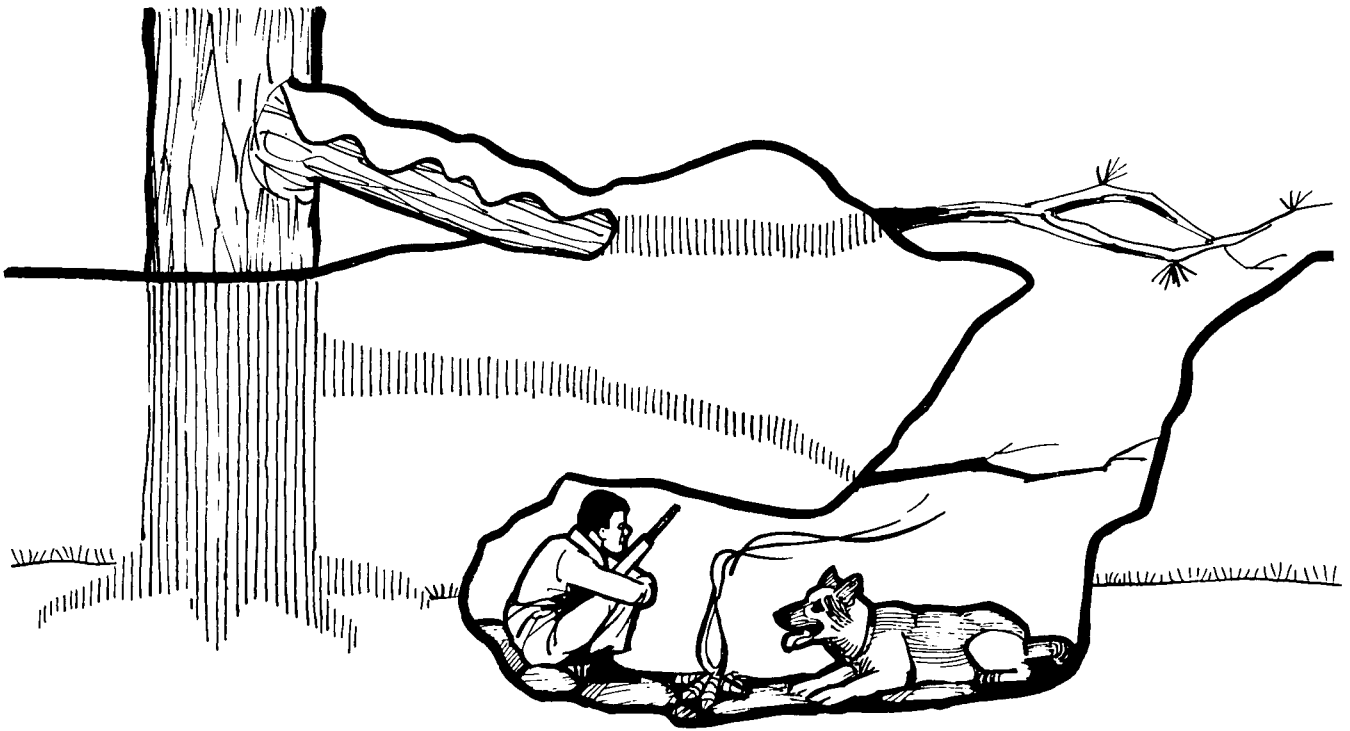
3. Bivouacs

Setting up bivouac areas will vary according to the terrain encountered on a particular operation. Living conditions are improved, however, if the area is used longer than one night (FM 31-71, 31-35).



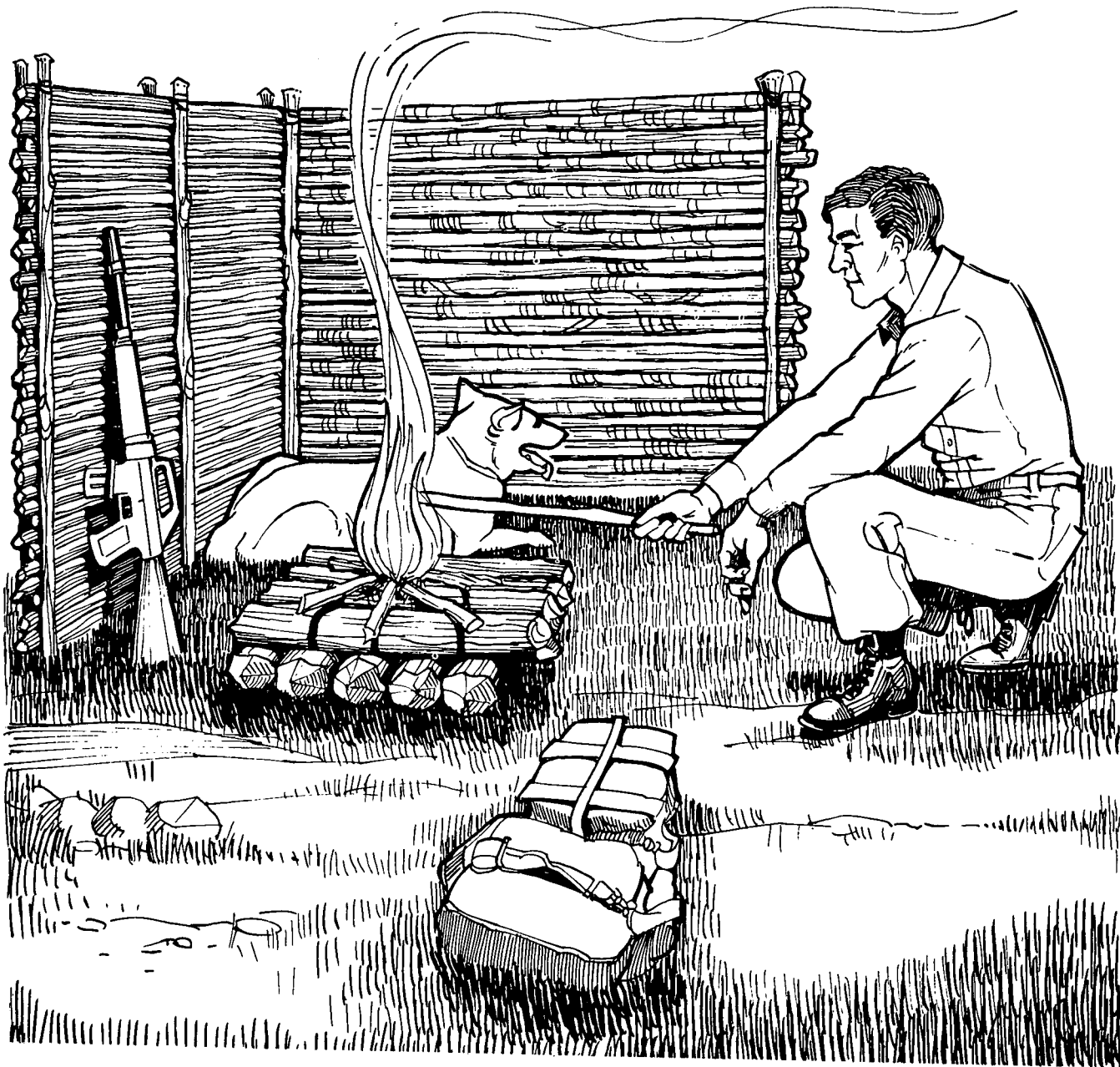
① Tropics

Figure 50. Expedient shelters.



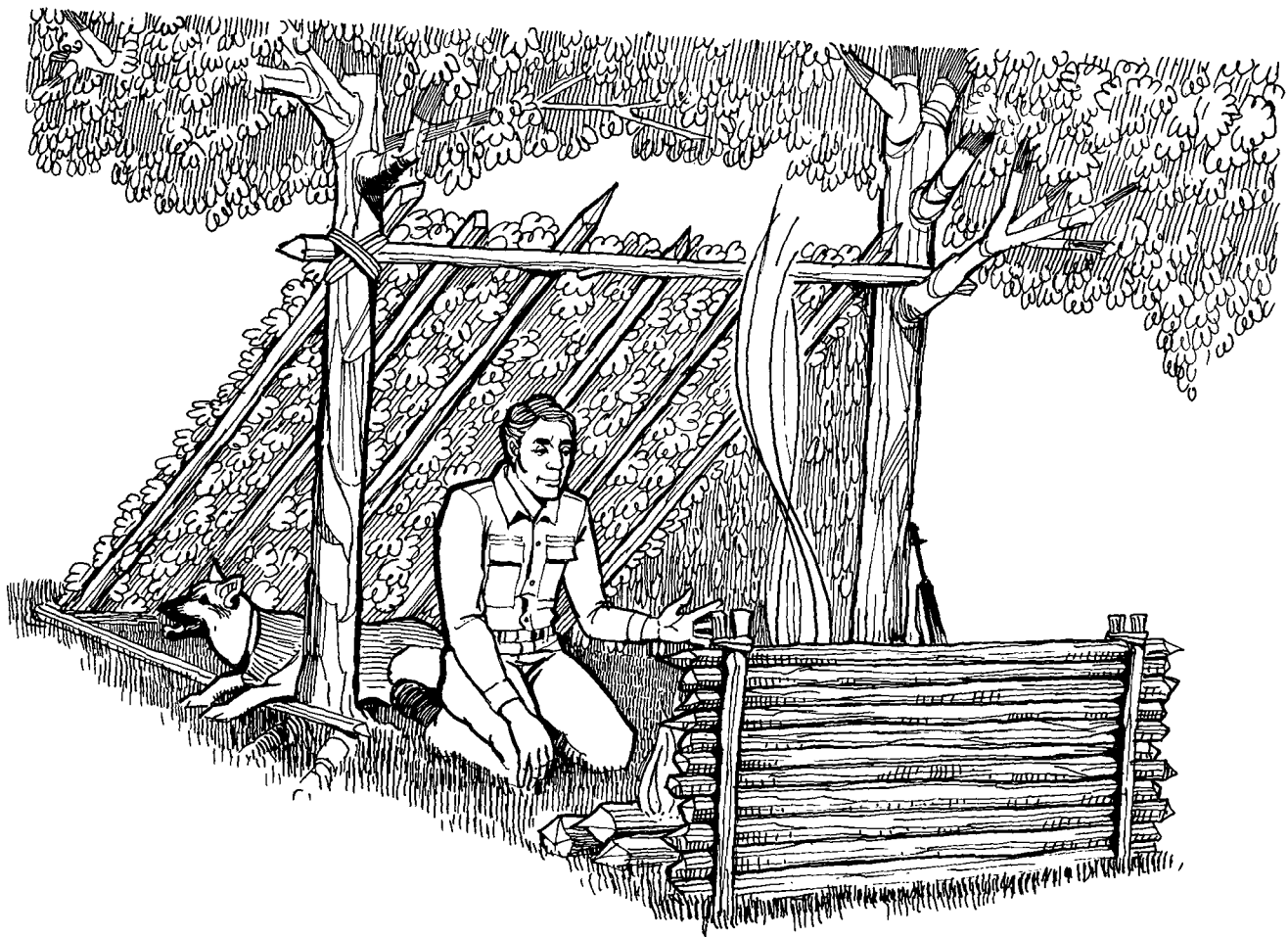
② Arctic

Figure 50—Continued.



③ Northern

Figure 50—Continued.



④ Northern
Figure 50—Continued.

APPENDIX D

TRAINING OBSTACLES

(Figs 51–60)

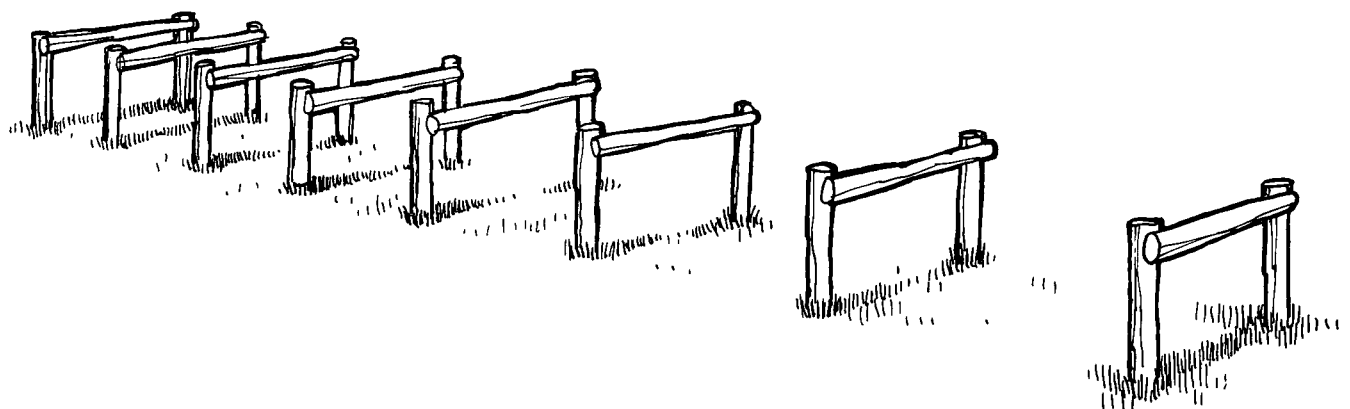
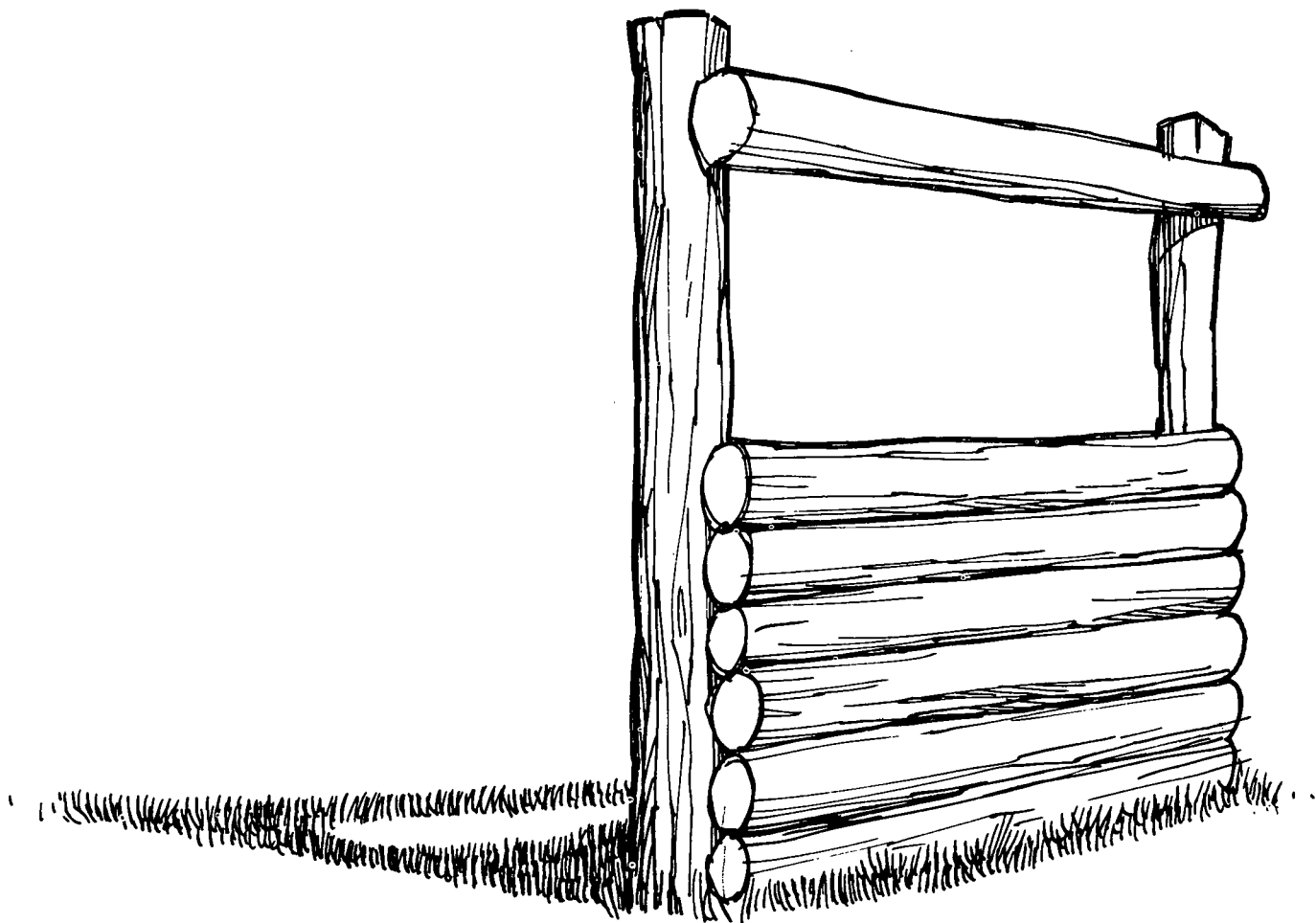
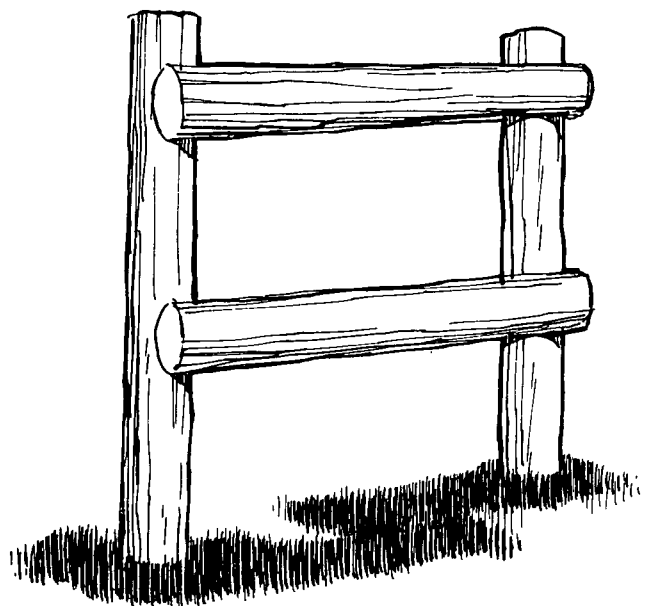


Figure 51. Hurdles.



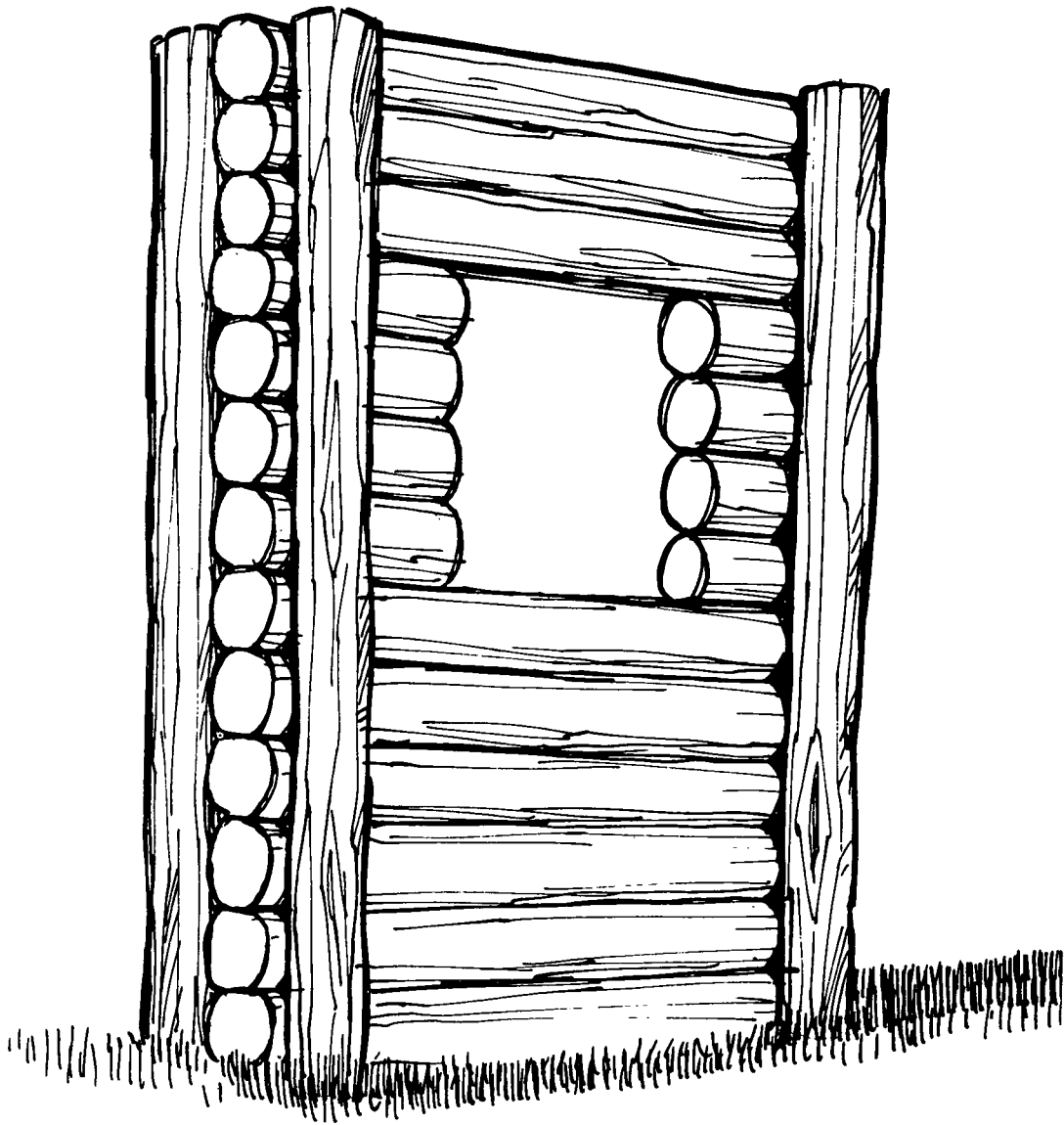
① Regular

Figure 52. Window hurdle.



② Modified

Figure 52—Continued.



③ Modified

Figure 52—Continued.

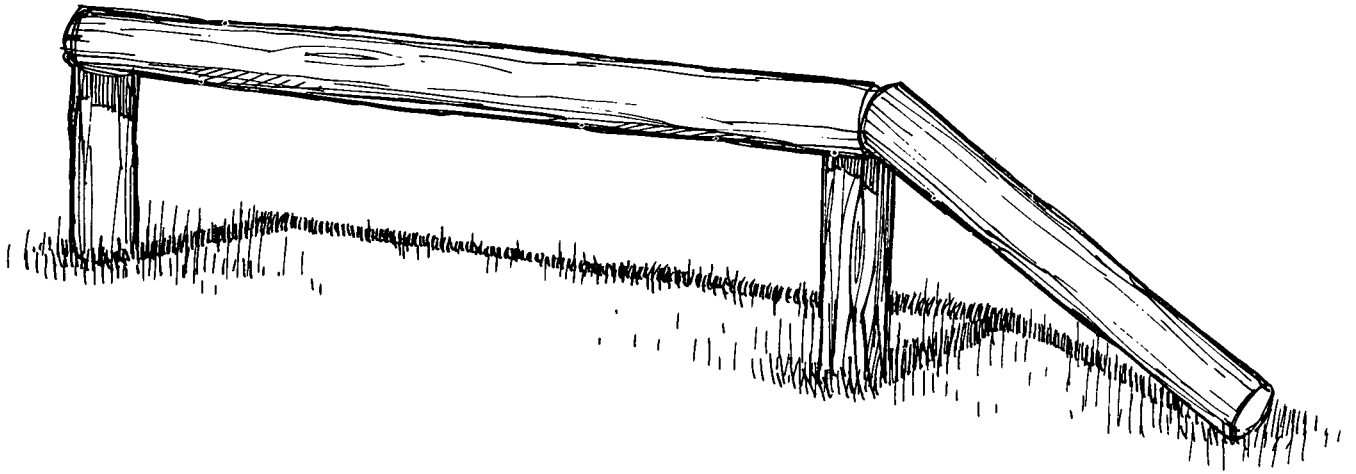


Figure 53. Log walk.

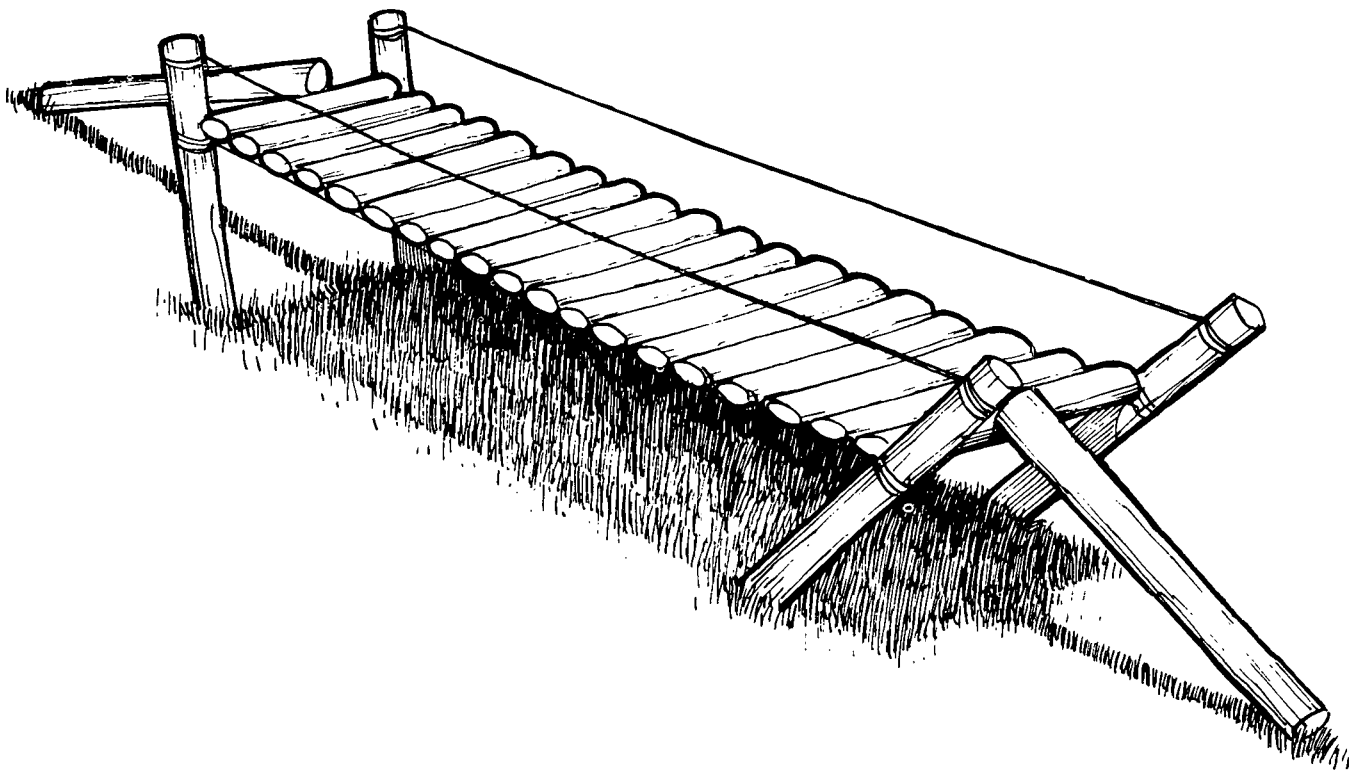


Figure 54. Log walk and suspended bridge.

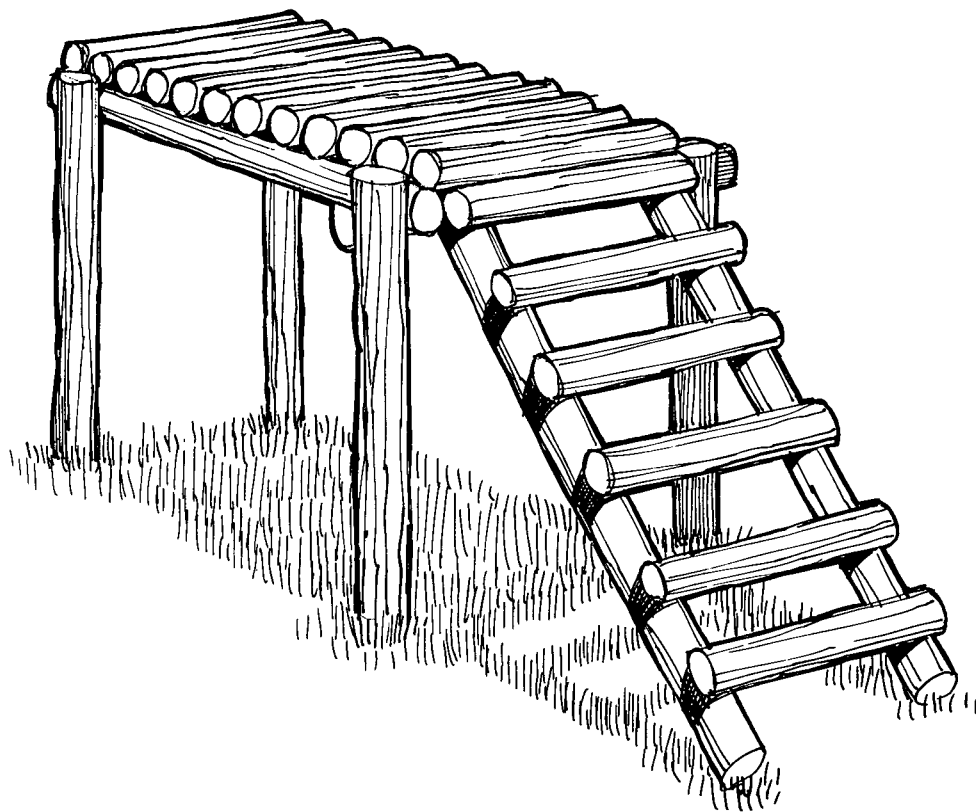


Figure 55. Ladder and platform.

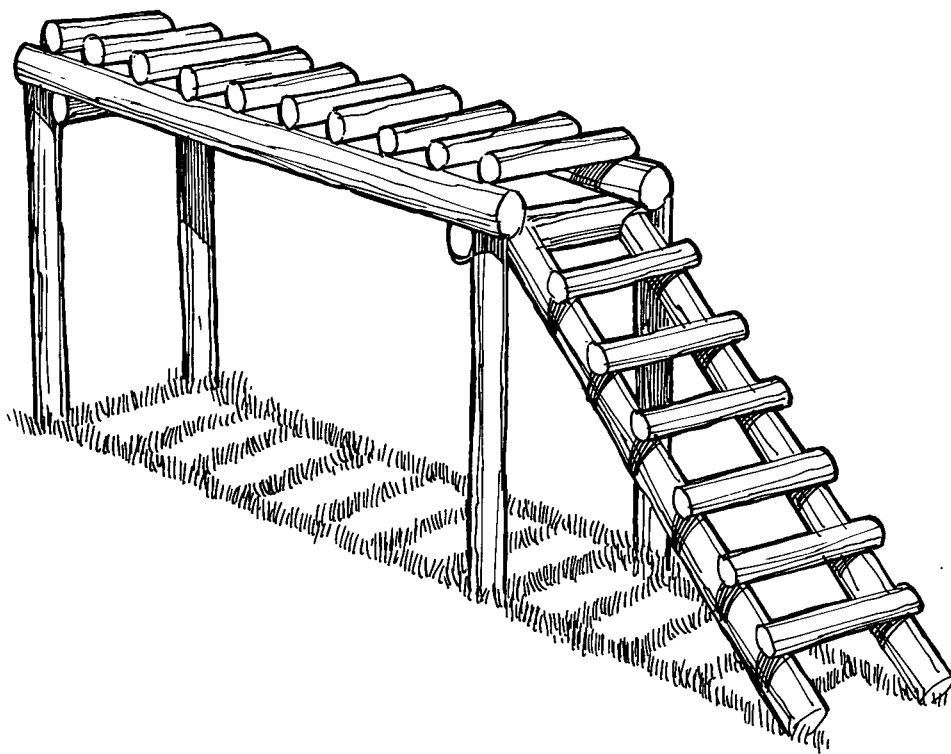


Figure 56. Ladder with spaced logs.

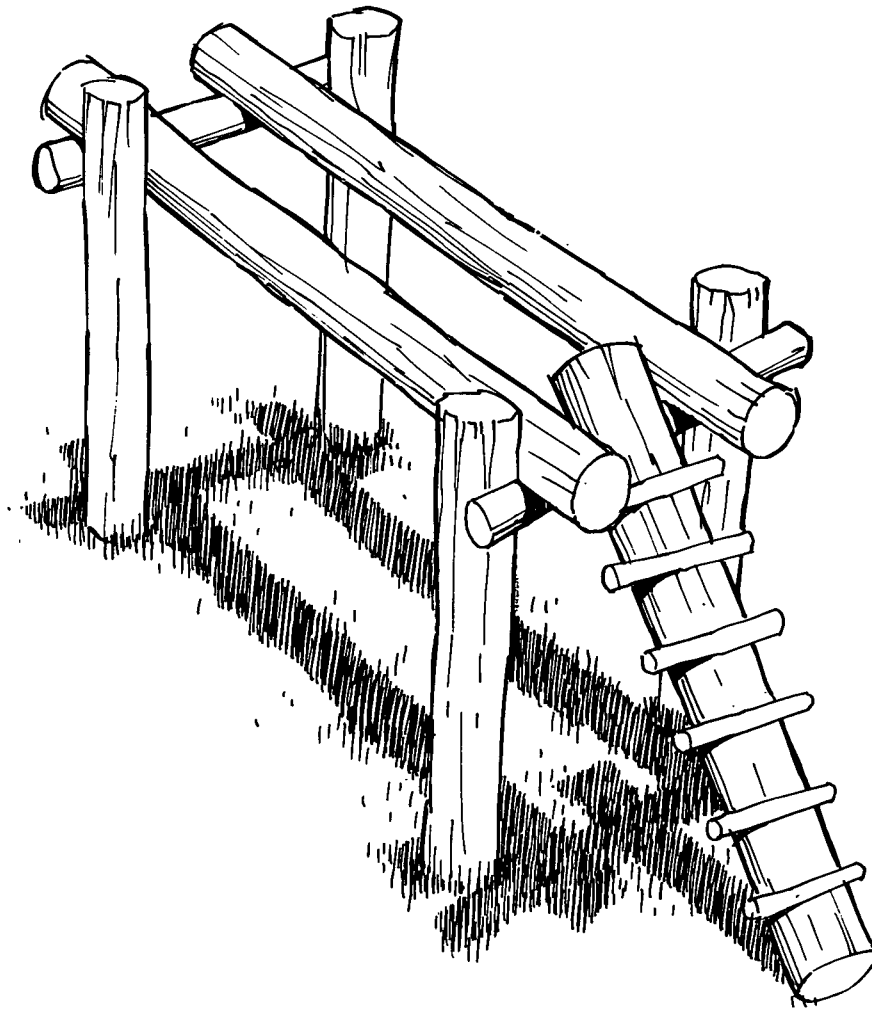


Figure 57. Straddle logs.

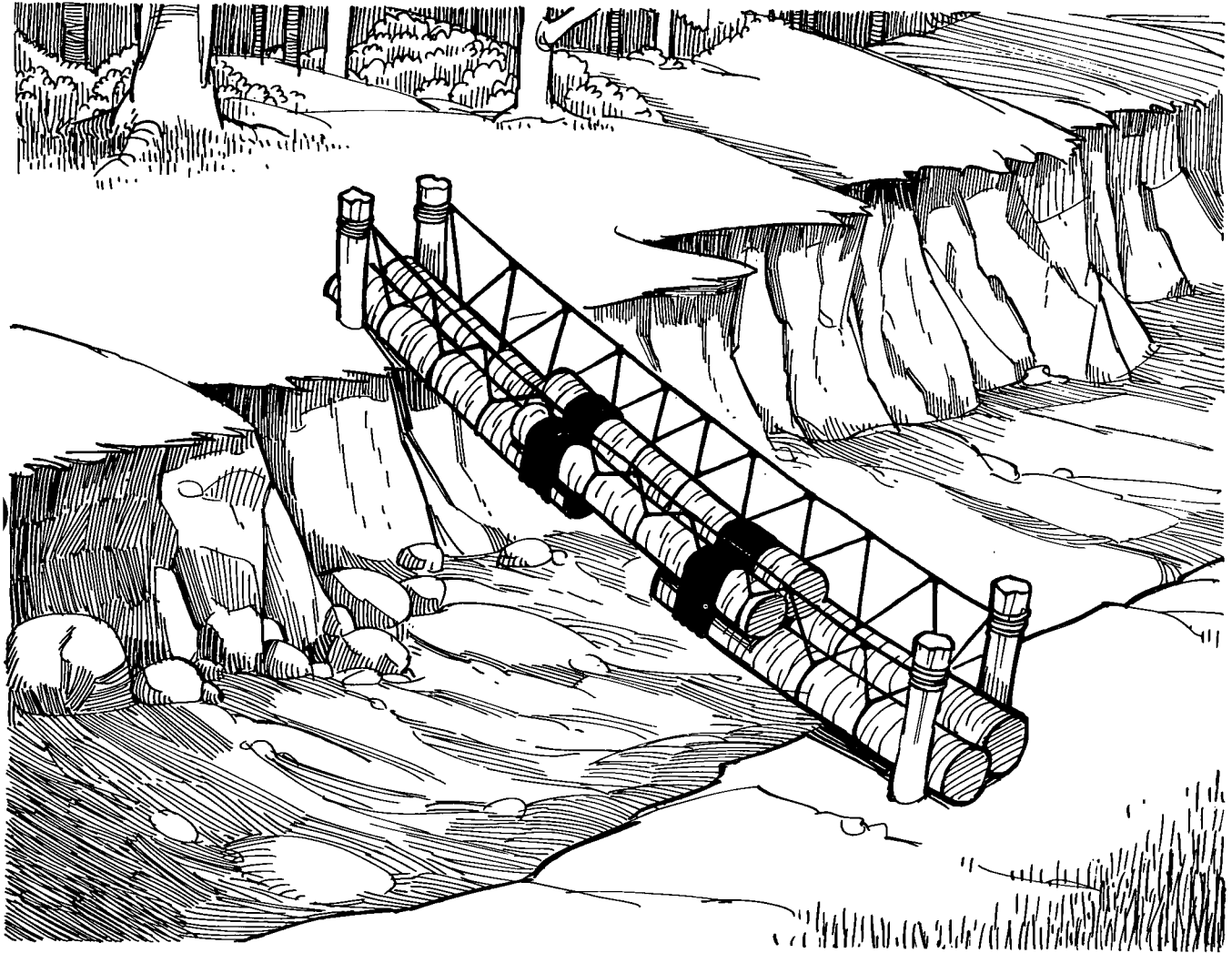


Figure 58. Repaired bridge.

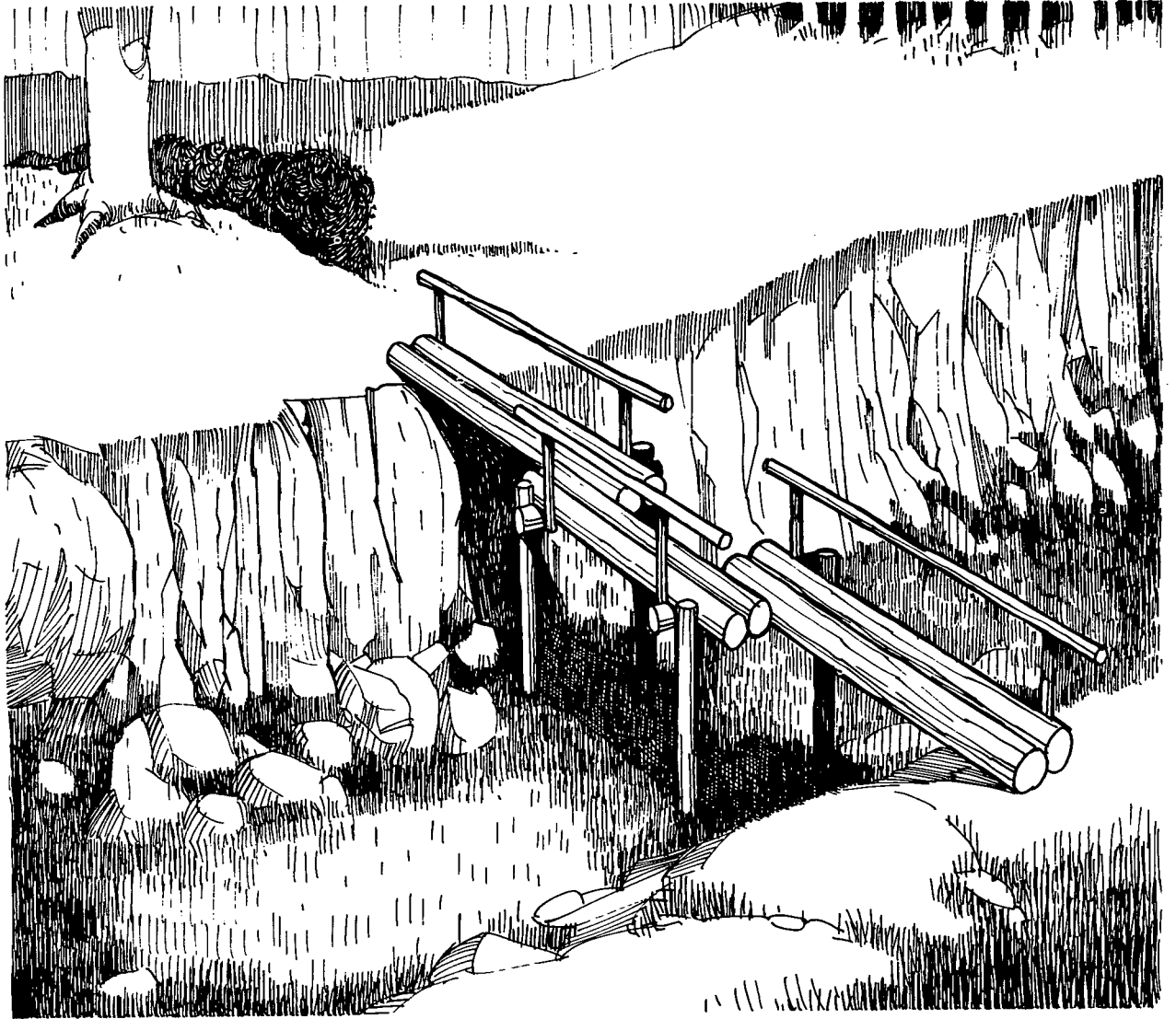


Figure 59. Log monkey bridge.

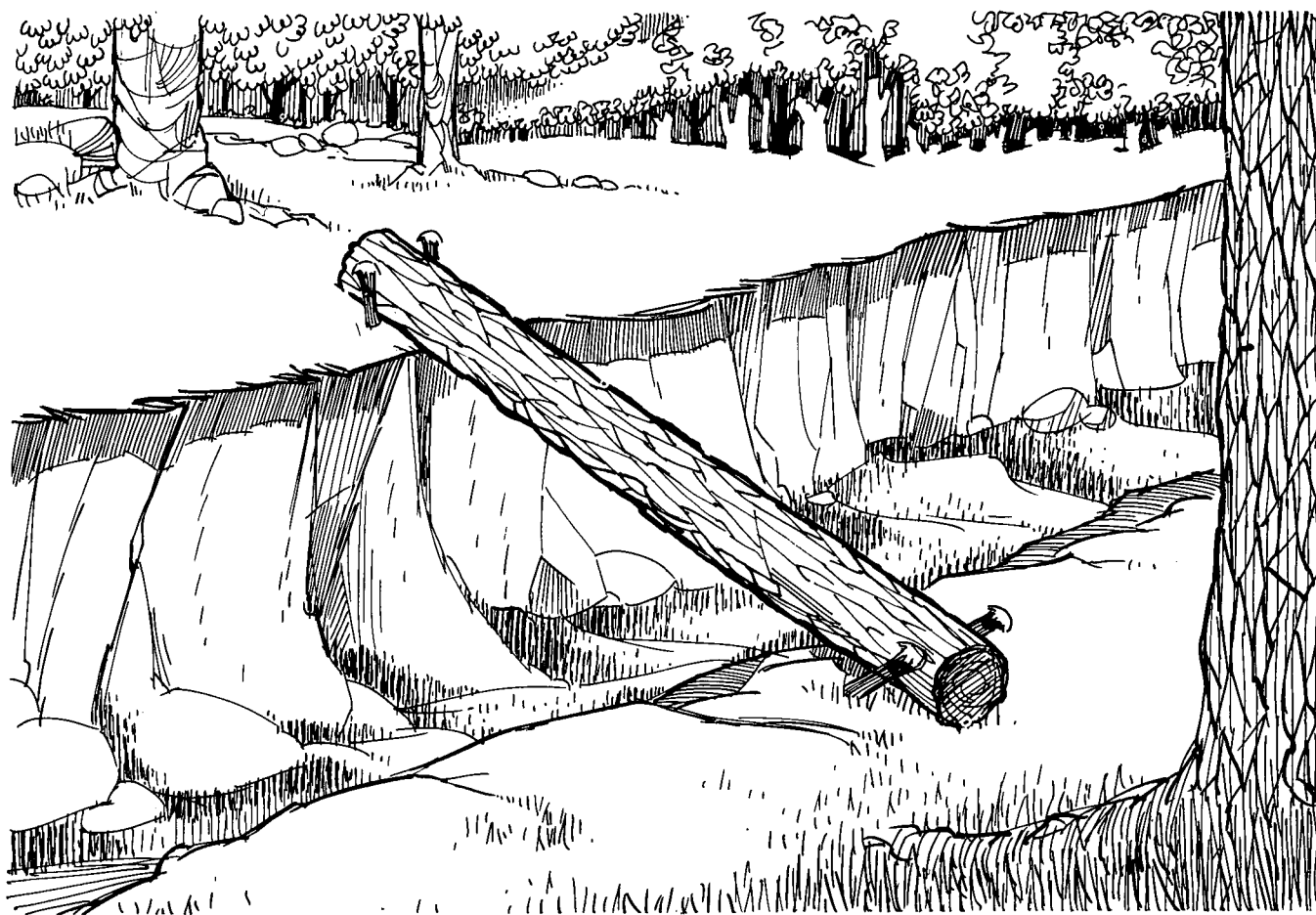


Figure 60. Log bridge.

APPENDIX E

(Figs 61 and 62)

Figure 61. Kennel construction diagram.

(Located in back of manual.)

UTILITY REQUIREMENTS

Electricity (KW)	Type A (24)	Type A (64)	Type B (8)	Type B ()
Connected Load	30	50*	15	25
Estimated Demand	20	40	10	15

*Note. When elec. radiant heat is used add 1½ KW for each kennel programmed.

Water (GPM)				
Hot	10	15	5	8
Cold	40	70	20	30
Water (GPD)	200 for support facility plus 6 per each kennel programmed			
Sewage (GPD)	200 for support facility plus 25 per each kennel programmed			

AIR CONDITIONING REQUIREMENTS

Outside design temperature			
78°F WB 95°F DB			
Tons of refrigeration	4	4	2

GENERAL NOTES

1. Location and dimensions of training security area kennel building number of kennels fence and loading pad may vary to meet base requirements.
2. Long dimension of kennel building must run east and west so that the exterior side of the kennels will face north or south.
3. Floor plans will be similar in all climates.
4. For cold climates provide glazed closures for all exterior screened areas, and minimum radiant heat in slab to prevent freezing in kennels.
5. When glazed closures are added, continuous roof ventilator may be deleted and a circular metal roof ventilator may be installed approx. 20'-0" O.C. in lieu thereof. Any roof ventilator used should have the capability of being opened or closed manually.
6. Electric resistance type heating cable embedded in concrete slab in kennels is suggested method of providing radiant heat. Heat should be thermostatically controlled. Full or partial slab heat may be used depending upon climatic conditions. Omit heating element within corridor area.
7. Provide heating units for kennel master's quarters, treatment area and food preparation area.
8. In warm climates, provide air conditioning in treatment and food preparation areas. Use self-contained window units or floor-type units.
9. All areas within building to be protected with insect screening.
10. Minimum facility to be programmed will be 8 dog kennels, Type "B." Maximum facility will not exceed 64 dog kennels, Type "A."
11. C M U partitions between kennels to have liquid glaze applied surface. Finishes in all areas accessible to dogs must take into consideration the damage caused by scratching and the desirability for minimum maintenance and maximum sanitation.
12. Roof overhang should extend beyond sanitary drains designed for kennel/run washdown water to avoid overloading drains and sanitary sewer lines during rains.
13. Provide a 2'-6" x 3'-0" wood pallet in each kennel. Suggested construction to be 2' x 4.5 to 5" on center with 2 x 4 cross members underneath.
14. Provide a bucket holder in each kennel.
15. Provide a 12' long ladder for access to catwalk.
16. All sinks to be deep, laundry-type, in food preparation room.
17. Security fences are 8'-0" high, chain link, with one strand of barbed wire.

AREA FOR PROGRAMMING GROSS AREA

	Kennel Building	Support Facility
Type "A" 24 kennels	2,025 sq. ft.	858 sq. ft.
Type "A" 64 kennels	4,775 sq. ft.	858 sq. ft.
Type "B" 8 kennels	753 sq. ft.	650 sq. ft.
Type "B" 20 kennels	1,578 sq. ft.	650 sq. ft.

Note. New or additional kennel construction should be according to current standards as approved by the Veterinary Division, Office of the Surgeon General, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C.

Figure 61—Continued.



Figure 62. Type kennel area.

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By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

VERNE L. BOWERS,
*Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.*

BRUCE PALMER, JR.,
*General, United States Army,
Acting Chief of Staff.*

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To be distributed in accordance with DA Form 12-11 requirements for Military Dog Training and Employment.

APPENDIX E

(Figs 61 and 62)

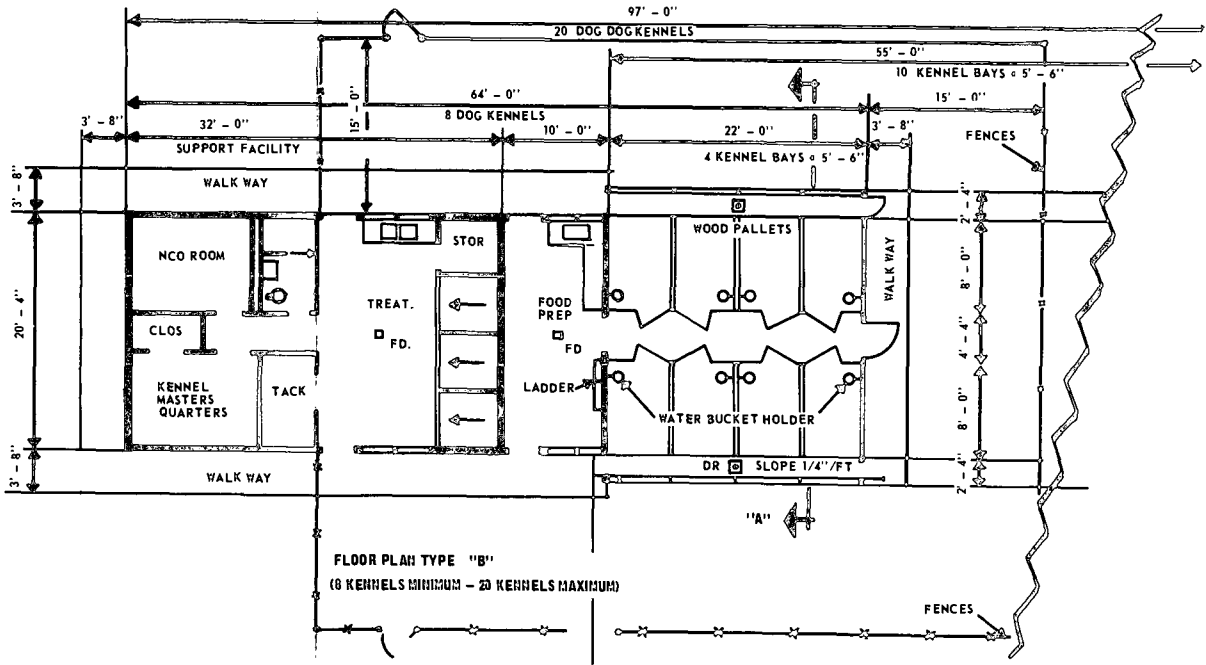
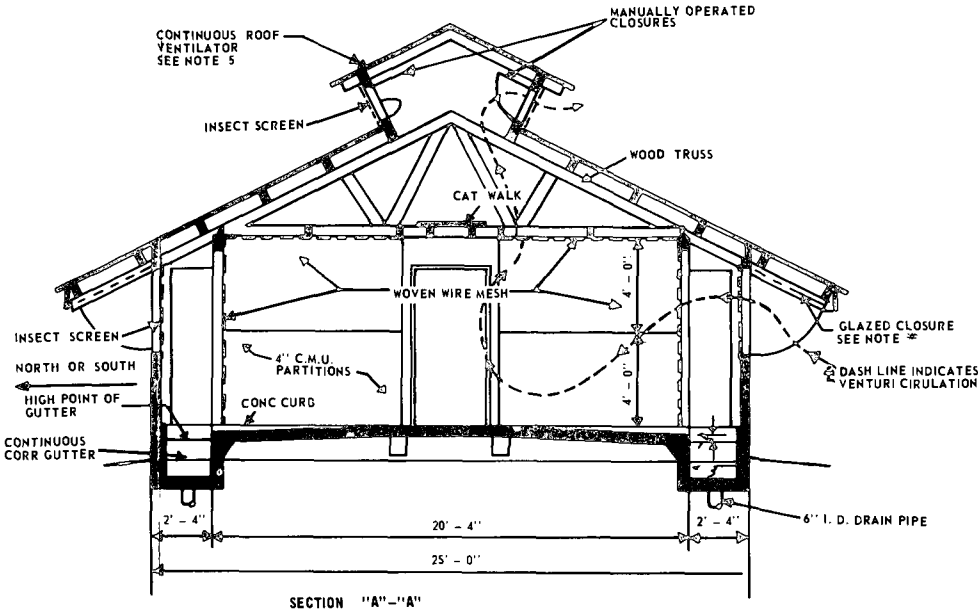
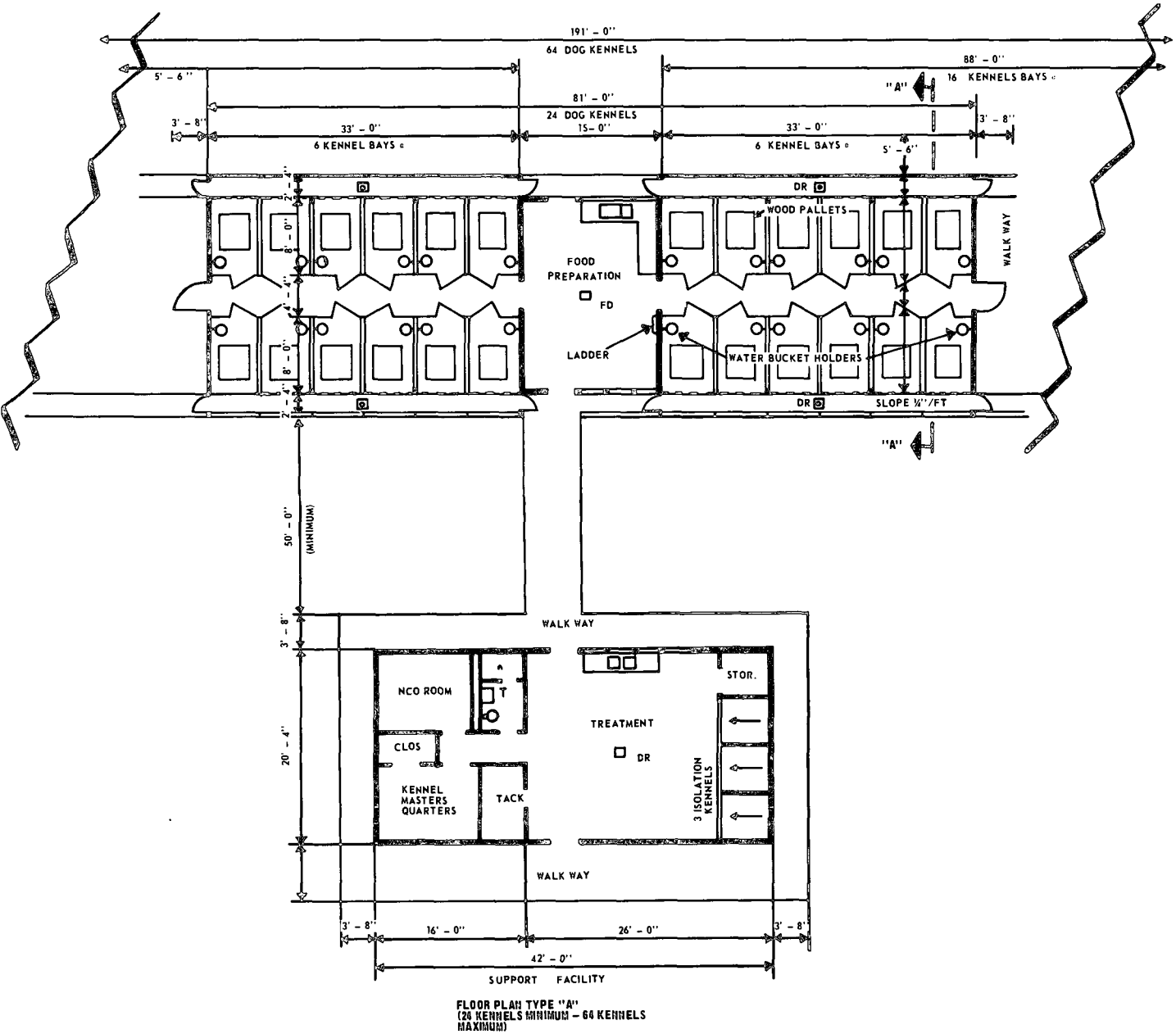


Figure 61. Kennel construction diagram.